■ NEWS / A2
GMA orders illegal Diwalwal mining operations shut down

■ LIFESTYLE / C1
Remembering some dearly departed who left too soon

■ NEWS / A6
FVR dares US gov't to explain embassy report linking him to coup plot

■ WORLD / A8
Top White House aide charged with lying in CIA leak probe

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Sunday, October 30, 2005 • 32 pages • vol. 29 • no. 334
www.inq7.net

Advertisers told: If it's funny, you're in business

By Veh Custodio

HE'S NOT LAUGHED LAST, but I have thrown a few

[illegible] he did for his son—whether or not he got the joke—laughter is a rule of "coping," Ms Ka

From beyond the grave, love leads to new 'virgin' love

By Ms. Coreen Boyo

"OH, I WOULD SURELY SEE AGAIN IF I could. We were real sweet and sweet. I loved her very much and I couldn't imagine life without her. After [illegible] I had this desire to go where she had gone and be reunited with her."

GMA doubted PSG–report

Stolen US file says Palace guards were disarmed

By Norman Bordadora

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE "Hello Garci" scandal in July, President Macapagal-Arroyo was apparently so concerned about her personal safety that she ordered the presidential guards to leave their weapons in their armories so that no one of dubious loyalty could approach her with a gun.

This was revealed in a US Embassy report sent to Washington and believed to be part of the federal bureau of investigation files allegedly pilfered by FBI PI-Am intelligence analyst Leandro Aragoncillo.

Yesterday, Malacañang flatly denied the allegations contained in the US Embassy report. Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye called it "fiction." (Story on Page A6-1)

The report was dated Aug. 8, 2005, which coincided with the time Ms Arroyo was battling a dangerous political issue provoked by her alleged wiretapped conversations with Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano dealing with rigging the results of the 2004 presidential election.

A few weeks before the date reflected on the report, 20 senior administration officials—who became known as the "Top 20"—resigned from their posts and a shadowy group of young Armed Forces officers called YOU (Young Officers Union) declared its reservation of her leadership.

It was also for the date that reports cropped up saying that Mr Arroyo was checking on the fidelity of officers and members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

A copy of the IIA Embassy report obtained by the Inquirer said the source of the ordinary information was an unnamed "Philippine military intelligence official with direct access to the information."

"The source's personal patriotic and military connections provide daily access to host country intelligence data," it said.

The report said that "main assignment is security detail at Malacañang since retired. It refers a term to bestir him as service."

"Source claimed that the action was ordered by troops approximately two weeks ago and was meant to ensure no one of suspect allegiance would be able to approach Arroyo while carrying arms," it added.

Presidential Security Group chief Brig.

Like candles marking the moment they're lit, so is birth the beginning of death.

Melancholy, candle style, at the Manila public cemetery in Barangka.

GMA links Julius Babao to bailout of terror suspect

By Pia Zamora

CITING AN INTELLIGENCE REPORT, President Macapagal-Arroyo has named ABS-CBN broadcaster Julius Babao as the one who provided bail for a leader of the group of Islamic converts allegedly allied with the regional terrorist network Jemaah Islamiyah.

But Babao has categorically denied providing bail for Nurjaman Riduan Isamuddin, also Dawud Mayalbo Ismail, alleged second in command of the Rajah Sulaiman Movement (RSM).

"Not true," Babao told the Inquirer on Friday by phone from Hong Kong, where he is monitoring with his wife and fellow broadcaster, Tintin Bersola.

The story first broke a month later. According to Babao, the bail was arranged by Jonathan Tiongco, the radio station's [illegible] assistant secretary. Michael Ordoñez presented an August 31 affidavit to prove that the "Babao-Ismail" tape—which purportedly showed that Mr Arroyo won the 2004 presidential election—was false.

The President made the disclosure about Babao in Senate subpoenaed Rupert Ruffo sees bench feel Malabonday in Malacañang. She was said to have described as "very disturbing" the supposed report of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP) that Babao is Tiongco's [illegible].

"If Babao did it on his own, he has to be questioned by ABS-CBN. Let's see what his bosses will have to say. Will they tolerate him?" Tulfo quoted Mr Arroyo as stating.

A police intelligence report on "radical Islamic converts" in the country described Jemaah as an "institute" of Muslim teachings. But the body described him as the second in command of the RSM.

Tiongco was arrested on March 23 during a raid on an alleged RSM safe house in Cubao, Quezon City, and was released on April 26 after posting bail.

Babao said the bail was arranged by Tiongco who, he said, offered to help after ABS-CBN reporter Ces Drilon went to a restaurant. Babao said the exclusive interview with Jaafar was also aired along with the arrest report.

"Tiongco offered to help because he said Jaafar was framed. I merely recommended him. But it's all," Babao said.

The Inquirer failed to reach Tiongco despite repeated calls and text messages to him.

Rear Admiral Ernesto Enrique, AFP deputy chief of staff for intelligence (J-2) said Friday that the military had no evidence about Babao's alleged act because "we did not enter a confrontation with the media."

Enrique said Babao had made written communication about the matter after Jaafar was arrested.

Source: Inquirer, Bienvenido Adarna, [illegible]

Dying cheap undertaking with carton caskets

By Avie Sudiosco-Perez
Contributor

FOR PETER DAU, DEATH IS A CHEAP undertaking.

His company, Compark Commercial Corp., makes some of the cheapest, cheapest coffins in the market. They are not made of metal or wood—Tau's multi-purpose coffins made of corrugated fiberboard or cartons.

The cheapest caskets in the market today sell for about P4,000. They are made of plywood or hardwood. There are others, some of the dearly departed have been known to drop out when the bottom gets wet. The most expensive ones are made of metal and are extremely priced.

The maker carton coffins and caskets which are sturdy and don't look half as bad as most people would imagine them to be. For a few thousand pesos more, the carton coffins can be wrapped in cloth. There are plans to create cast reinforced caskets which would be cheaper.

"We've cut the cost drastically and the weight by almost half," says Tau, who has been in the packaging business for 20 years. His new product is the result of nearly six months of personal research and development. It's the first of its kind in the country, and patented under the trademark "Styrena."

Carton casket prices start at P4,000 and all come with guarantees that the body will not fall out.

To make sure the carton casket will hold, Tau uses Unilever's corrugated fiberboard material. There's enough of carton for the sides and top, and almost two inches of material for the bottom. That's three times thicker than the sides of a bo-

Making music in cemetery, where Rey Valera found his niche

By Veh Custodio

QUITE LITERALLY, REY VALERA COMposed while others decomposed.

The multi-awarded singer-songwriter produced his breakout hit in the late 1970s in the most unlikely of creative settings: The town cemetery of his native Mandaluyong in Rizal.

The melody and lyrics of about half of Valera's enduring repertoire sprang to life during his lunch [illegible] days—and nights—spent alone in the graveyard, parts in hand and notebook and tape recorder in the study for that elusive chord or turn of phrase.

When the time felt [illegible] just the creative juices kept flowing, he would light a candle on a stranger's tomb—nice to hold a vigil for the dead, but to linger a little longer with the life-affirming haven that room [illegible].

Between 1975 and 1977, the then "newly" is counting student and struggling composer made his sessions among the tombs an after-class routine.

He found his modest place of solitude after moving to an aunt's home, which had the cemetery for a neighbor.

"Patsy's love is the word of our dining room and you could see the notes crawled. That's how those we were on the graveyard," said a smiling Valera, now 51.

Not that there's anything creepy or so-call behind "like a Superstar," "Malaya Pa Ang Umaga," and his other songs of love and longing, which, almost three decades later, remain radio favorites and are constant themes of romantic Pinoy films—even, of late, a Filipino-dubbed Korean soap.

"Inspiration [illegible] it was only in classes. I went to the cemetery because I had no money and nowhere else to go," he said, in self-spoken as when he is singing.

Rey Valera Guardiano came from a broken home.

He spoke about the highs and lows of his life in an interview on Friday with Dr. Ton—over upon a date his fellow choir-

[illegible] 32 pages

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

GMA: Stop illegal mining on Diwalwal

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY ORdered a stop to all illegal mining operations on Mt. Diwalwal to prevent more deaths from the unsafe mining practices and tunnow rivalries at the Compostela Valley gold-mining village.

"I share the grief of the bereaved families in the grim tragedy and I assure you that enforcement of regulations that would forestall a recurrence. The people on the ground will try to save lives and prevent the loss of more in this gold rush area," the President said in a statement.

A series of explosions last Monday, she ordered a tunnel in the mountain mining village to collapse, causing the death of 12 people. Several more are presumed trapped in the mine.

Ms. Arroyo said the Department of Environment and Natural Resources would conduct a thorough investigation to determine culpability.

The President has ordered the Office of Civil Defense and other agencies to speed up the search-and-rescue operations in every possible way to find more survivors.

Yesterday, a mine company official and police said the bodies of four more miners were recovered from the collapsed tunnel, bringing to 12 the total confirmed dead.

Rescue rescue work was suspended on Friday due to strong rains that threatened to flood the tunnel, but resumed on Saturday, after authorities and spokesmen for nine owner JS Management and Mining Corp., said excavating the gases from the tunnel and pumping in fresh air had let rescuers recover the four bodies found in the day.

Rapidoks said rescue teams other miners were still in the mine, depriving village leaders' reports that dozens remained buried in the tunnel in the mountain village of 900. There's no confirmation for the figure.

It was not clear whether any of those trapped could still be alive in the approximately 11m long mine tunnel.

Village chief Fruto Tio, quoting blast survivors, said that about 50 people were still in the mine, though he felt it was unlikely that they were alive.

However, Rapidoks said that "if there were that many there would be crying relatives here now – but there aren't."

Landslide stops operations

Hidden conditions make people in the tunnel vulnerable to landslides, which have killed hundreds of people in the area in the past few years.

Rapidoks also disputed reports, attributed to other survivors, that explosions earlier in the tunnel had caused the blast. He declined to comment when asked if the company used explosives.

The cause of the explosion is still undetermined," he said, adding that engineers have speculated that a pocket of methane gas exploded.

Provincial police chief Senior Supt. Hector Quinay said he sent a team equal to the six motorists to determine whether explosives caused the blast.

Rapidoks insisted that the company is the sexually figures now have been due to political rivalry. He said the village chief lost to the brother of the mine owners in last year's mayoral election in Mendoza town, under which jurisdiction Mt. Diwalwal falls.

The mountainous gold-rich area has also been the site of bloody conflicts over mining claims with occasional cases of people sabotaging the mining tunnels of rivals.

Eduardo Lapu, the local civic leader who led about 20 illegal miners against Lim, was trying to clear out the lone miners which were hampering rescue efforts at the collapsed mine.

Aurelio Rapinan and Arlo Aquino two of the miners, said that though their spirits and willingness to help were high, their weaker energy could not make up for them.

"It was thick and smelled bad," said Pequeno. He said he acted into the tunnel three times but gave up on his fourth attempt.

He said some of the rescuers were wearing gas masks.

RESIDENTS of Mt. Diwalwal wail about waiting for word on the victims of the latest tragedy to hit their village. | MARIANO SANTOS/PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

"When you smell the air inside the tunnel, you will become weak," said Aquino.

There were reports reaching the Inquirer that two of the rescuers had died from suffocation but nobody could confirm this. **Reports from** AIDC correspondents Al. Al Bendaña, AFP and Joselle ell. Rodillo, PDI Bladimer Pereira

Drilon's brother quits aggie post

THE EGOISM OF OPPOSITION ALlies in the Arroyo administration continues, with the brother of Senator President Franklin Drilon resigning from his post as an undersecretary at the Department of Agriculture.

Agriculture Undersecretary for Fisheries and Legislative Relations Cesar M. Drilon Jr. has filed for terminal leave and will step down by the end of the year, according to a Malacañang statement. His resignation coming up last July 26 effective last week said was told Drilon was on leave.

The Malacañang source said Drilon had found it "unbearable" to continue serving under President Macapagal-Arroyo after his brother publicly declared his resignation on July 5, shortly after a group of Cabinet secretaries now collectively known as "The Hyatt 10" resigned and demanded the ouster of her.

Drilon had been tasked as the new agriculture secretary in the President's post-election Cabinet after Chairman of Bicol ... Senator Drilon's bailiwick – found overwhelmingly for Ms Arroyo.

But Drilon's hopes to get the post were dashed when the President picked first Senator resident, in the person of Senator Luis "Loi" Lorenzo. Drilon was again bypassed by the President when she picked Domingo F. Panganiban to replace Yap, who was forced to resign on June 30 after it was revealed that he was facing graft charges filed by Ombudsman Simeon Marcelo and his father by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Drilon's is the latest in a growing number of resignations in the Arroyo administration as former allies have become or been considered enemies of the President in the aftermath of the Hyatt 10's mass resignation.

Among those who quit ahead of Drilon were Comelec Emilio ... presidential consultant on investor relations Vicky Garchitorena, consultant on good governance and poverty alleviation; and Presidential Security Group III, chief of the Metro Bay Metropolitan Authority and consultant on the development of Subic and Clark. Malacañang has also tried to woo real Inquirers Undersecretary Jose Miguel Arroyo, a cousin of the President, to be appointed to be regulator of the cable-wiring line. **Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.**

GMA confidant seen replacing Tiglao

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALITA "MAI MAI" JIMENEZ, RETIRED to by many as a "shadowy power broker" in the Arroyo presidency, could be back in the Palace soon in a more powerful post.

Sources reportedly inside the short list of candidates to replace Rigoberto Tiglao as chief of the Presidential Management Staff, Tiglao has accepted an appointment to be the Philippine ambassador to Greece.

Another source on the President's short list is her executive secretary and former student at the Ateneo de Manila University, Atty. Eraj Ermita, who is also being touted for Executive Secretary before counterfactor next year.

A Malacañang source said the President wanted to have a quick replacement for Tiglao to prevent the PMS from missing its deadline with Tiglao's imminent departure.

The PMS functions as the President's in-house think tank and is responsible for turning the implications of policy initiatives that are the key to her economic and political reform program. It is also supposed to provide the executive the President's strategies, programs and interventions.

The source said the PMS had been subject "bad luck" since Tiglao underwent a heart bypass operation recently, after he was appointed to the post in August 2004.

The source said the President wanted the PMS to reassert itself as a "powerful house of ideas" by getting someone new to take charge of it immediately.

Jimenez, a Assumption College classmate of the President and a colleague when Ms Arroyo was an undersecretary at the Department of Trade and Industry more than a decade ago, is a member of the President's executive clique. She has handled a number of assignments for the President, ranging from media affairs to election campaign funds disbursements.

Jimenez was a presidential adviser on overseas development before being appointed to her current lucrative post as alternate executive director of the Asian Development Bank.

Before her ADB appointment, Jimenez had reportedly been lobbying for a more influential post in the Palace, in some sort of reward for her perceived contribution to the President's election victory in May 2004.

She resurfaced in Malacañang at the height of the "Hello Garci" scandal in July, joining the President's crisis management team.

Gloria 'on ropes,' should fire advisers, says Gordon

By Herman Bordadora

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO HAS been badly served by her advisers who came up with such ill-advised and divisive policies as the calibrated pre-emptive response (CPR) law and the prohibition of Masses for the opposition in the churches near Malacañang, as lobmaker-turned-senator said yesterday.

"The President should fire some of her advisers. They are hitting [non-issues] because issues," Sen. Richard Gordon said at the weekly Kapihan sa Sulo forum.

In remarks to reporters after the forum, Gordon said the President was "very ill-advised."

"She's hitting non-issues like the Gloria is somebody on the ropes. The President is about to do anything," he said.

Gordon asked why the administration could not just let the anti-Arroyo protesters be. He said government officials should not rub salt on the wounds of opposition.

As for the urgent of the Presidential Security Group commander, Brig. Gen. Delfin Bangit, for the chamber now the Palace to disallow Mass conducted by anti-Arroyo forces, Gordon said Bangit "should not have made a good move."

"A leadership that is always reactive loses ... A good leadership that is afraid cannot make changes," he said.

Gordon said the President should meet with the opposition.

"She already knows what we disagree about. Let's talk about what we can agree on," he said.

Gordon said there were five things that Ms Arroyo should do to show that she was doing something concrete for the people.

He said the President should set office commitments, guarantee jobs by making the budget process more transparent, lower tax collection, close the gap on education and health, and make the government "fast, fair, firm, friendly and forward-looking."

"The government must stop going around the ropes and start hitting the right spots," Gordon said.

Nene wants Senate to probe fire

THE SENATE SHOULD INVESTIGATE THE possible fund flows in the Department of Budget and Management to see deliberately if any documents pertaining to the P728-million fertilizer fund scandal, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel Jr. said yesterday.

"I think this will be included by him. [Senator] Miriam [Defensor Santiago] is the investigator of the committee on the fertilizer fund anomaly," Pimentel said in a phone interview.

The Senate committee on agriculture is looking into the use of P728 million that was originally intended to purchase fertilizer and other farm inputs for poor farmers but was allegedly diverted to support President Macapagal-Arroyo's campaign in the 2004 election.

The committee has obtained the testimony of former Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin that Department of Agriculture Secretary Luis "Cito" Lorenzo wrote out the transactions before the presidential election.

Pimentel and other opposition leaders have expressed suspicion that the fund was an attempt to cover up the alleged fund diversion. The Inquirer first reported some weeks ago that the DBM sent Malacañang two days after the June hearing.

Lito Monsod, the secretary has said that the records were in the office and it is easy to ... to withdraw this as the reason for the fire," Pimentel said. "We have to look deeper into the incident because the implications are serious." **Juliet Labog-Javellana**

De La Salle Professional Schools, Inc.
Graduate School of Business

Expert teaching and practical experience needed in today's business environment

Master of Business Administration
- Develops highly capable and socially responsible leaders of national and regional businesses
- Addresses the educational needs of working professionals who seek synergy between their functional business skills and the application of technology to business
- Offers a pragmatic approach to the following areas that students have the option to major in: Agribusiness, Business Management, Culture and Arts Management, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Human Research Management, International Technology, International Business, Management Science, Marketing, Property Management and Sports and Recreation Management
- Provides online learning support to enable students to access various learning materials using the Web-CT online learning platform. Through an automatic database and management system, faculty members are able to monitor the progress of each student and give support as needed. We are proud to be the first MBA Program in the Philippines to offer this innovative learning tool.

Master of Science in Computational Finance
- Provides a grounded theoretical and pragmatic approach to using quantitative techniques in finance
- Equips students with the skills required by the CFA® exam

Master of Business Administration
- Trains managers and academics in handling and disseminating advanced management knowledge
- Integrates normative discussions on ethics and social responsibility with the more profit-oriented one mentioned in business

Master of Business Administration-Juris Doctor
- Provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in business and law
- Maximizes the synergy between the two disciplines
- Equips students who seek careers in investment banking, corporate law, taxation and accountancy, venture capital formation, and insurance and securities underwriting, among others

Post-Graduate Diploma in Management
- Prepares participants who want to earn a master's degree in management, business and related fields
- Focuses on management principles, use of management problem-solving and decision-making tools, and acquisition of skills

Post-Graduate Diploma in Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Addresses industry's need for rigorously trained logistics practitioners, in the light of the increasing importance of the logistics function as a competitive tool of a firm.

Entrance exams are on:
30 November (Tue)
12 November (Tue)
19 November (RCBC)
26 November (Ortigas & Taft)

Office hours:
8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Saturday

For more information, please call:

Taft Campus
Ortigas Campus
La Salle Greenhills
RCBC Campus

ENTERTAINMENT

Turn to your bathtub

E-mail: pi_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor: Bonnie S. Velarde

The wild, dark world of Mickey Rourke

LOS ANGELES—MICKEY ROURKE's life is so wild and kinky as that of the title character in "Domino," the action-thriller in which he stars.

Most considered among Hollywood's top actors, he erupted in the 1980s, emerging as the screen rival to "9½ Weeks" and the controversial "Angel Heart" when he had sex on screen with a co-star Lisa Bonet who was a minor at the time. Bill Cosby left an outcry against the film, since Lisa had just gotten off the hugely-canonized "Cosby" TV sitcom, where she played one of the daughters.

Pillow Book's career hit the skids, he returned to boxing, one of his earlier jobs, his saga of Mickey in the ring, bloodied, worn out illustration of what had become of the fine actor, who many had thought would go on to reach long, riveting and distinguished years as a thespian. Instead, the whole world saw parodies of the pro.

Today, many believe that Mickey has had facial plastic surgery. Does anyone think the handsome, expressive face has retreated pacific like a few find that Mickey should have just at least sought to take its course.

In "Domino," directed by Tony Scott ("Top Gun," "Enemy of the State"), Mickey plays Ed, leader of a band of modern-day bounty hunters (they do odd, alarming deeds legal/not-so-legal).

Keira Knightley plays the title role loosely based on the late 80's that actor Domino Kennedy. Did some the most manipulative screenplay could have concocted the twists and turns of this real Dominico life.

The daughter of English actor Laurence Harvey, Knightley had a privileged upbringing. She schooled in exclusive schools in England and moved to Beverly Hills as her teens. She was a runway model in Paris. But Dominico was not love. Pillow she was down and out in LA, she found her true calling—as a bounty hunter. Unsuitable actor Edgar Ramirez makes an impact in this movie as Choco, who joins Dominico and Ed in tracking down and capturing things and criminals who have jumped bail.

Mickey's girlfriend, a brunette bombshell, sat on the back of the hotel starting room at his motorcycle quarters with cheese to-die humor and candor. Below are excerpts of our press con with the cursing, chain-smoking heartthrob actor.

You seem at ease in this movie. Does the world of bounty hunters appeal to you?
I was on medication (laughter). No, it was mainly interesting because the director was Tony Scott. I wouldn't have made this picture in movie if Tony wasn't the director. It would have been like a modern Amanda movie. That wouldn't have interested me because [there] it would be too big.

You're a father figure of sorts to this movie.
More like a big brother, yeah.

Do you regret not having children?
No. I have seven dogs. Well, one passed away two weeks ago. I have six left. They're my kids. If I couldn't put more that I would always be there for the kids, then I wouldn't bring something into the world. I never really intended to have children because I never wanted to do to them what happened to me because that was such a nightmare. [My stepdad, said, to be a strict disciplinarian, repeatedly slapped his kids around.]

You've been photographed with this small dog. What are the names and breed of your other dogs?
Where's the dog? He was supposed to be here with me ages. He's late. He's coming with me to work at Cirque on Friday so he's getting the papers today. My dogs are of different breeds—Chihuahua, pug and mix-canines. Their names are Loci, Chocolate, Baby Baby, Bella Luna, Jesus and La Negra.

Can you talk about Edgar Ramirez, who makes such an impact in this movie?
At the beginning, they were thinking of somebody else doing the role, some pi boy flavor of the month Hollywood guy (laughter). I grew up with Latin people in Florida and there's no way that a gringo can play the part. Unless you get Al Pacino...but somebody like him comes around only every 10 years. To do that kind of acting, you're better off getting a Latin actor instead of throwing to someone with a bad accent. So I'm very glad they hired Edgar. I was somewhat that Edgar did. I said to Tony, you've got to hire this!—a guy who can't put this white guy in shoes (laughter). As soon as Edgar walked in the room, I liked him. I said to Tony, come on, please.

Your character has a little bit of an underlying relationship or an attraction to Keira's character. Are you an shy or your character?
I was really nice to live with Edgar's character (Jean Baker) (laughter). You didn't know that there was something going on between Keira and Choco? You didn't see that?

No, I didn't.
Well, you've got to watch the movie again. I mean, he's a good looking man.

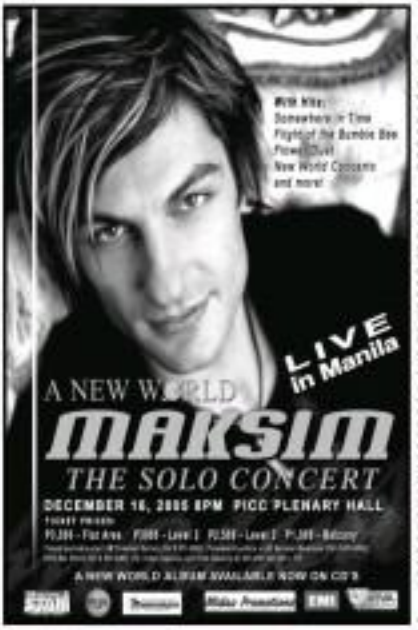
What was so challenging about this

TURN TO A2

THE ACTOR during his press con, left, and in a scene from his latest movie, "Domino."

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Robert V. Arpadon



The wild, dark world of Mickey Rourke

MICKEY Rourke, Keira Knightley and Edgar Ramirez in Director Roger Scotti's film about bounty hunters

wife!
I rolled out of bed and said the lines. What took a bit of an effort was to remember suits. Time that I don't waste to make fat jazz thieves—financial (Jag who is a bounty hunter. I mean him to have layers. I wanted my character to have a funny bone, he comes or he outlined—to it's always challenging for me.

It's great to see you back on the screen. What happened... and how are you a different man now?
What happened was that I came from the street and when you make it, you start to make money in this business. You're in this town, you hear on your chest a little bit and think, you're never going to disappear. And then one day you fall on your ass and it takes you 10 years to get it over on back up. It's a really humiliating because when you I-A up in the town, it's very easy for people to go like that. Do make a diminisher wave with his hand). That's the nature of people to do that. This is a town built on envy. When you fall, you don't always get a second chance. I worked very hard to get a second chance. I thought I would get it in a year or two or three, but it took over 10 years so it has been a very humbling experience. I don't feel that I deserve to be back more than I feel grateful to have an opportunity for a second chance. I don't believe in luck because I worked real hard at it. I fell for years go by because when you fall from grace the way I have, you live in shame. It's very embarrassing to be scrambled (laughter), washed up or a broken man. When your screen doesn't happen to one, two, three, four, five, six years, you start to believe it's over, too.

It's interesting to hear you talk about your so-called disappearance because it sounds as if you were mystified about why you couldn't get back that fast while the media made it seem that you left the business in a mystery.
It was both. It was mainly my fault, though. I was good at blaming someone or something else. It's very easy to go, "It's this mother!—A bush." When I had to look in the mirror one day, I realized that it wasn't just my career that I lost. I lost a lot of things along the way. I realized it was no one, not everybody else and it was from being young, arrogant, irresponsible and angry—I don't use a bad word. I mean, that is a bad word (laughter)—especially when it goes on for 14 years.

So what changed?
One day when you lose everything and you look around and you go, "Is this it? Is this the end?" and it changes everything—the people you have around you, what you do every day. The change is very hard especially if you don't want to change and you don't think you have to change. It's a lonely dark road until you get any daylight.

Can you be more specific about what changed?
I didn't have any value for myself. I had no value for myself. As soon as my balls dropped, there were no rules for me, which was wrong. It was just an angry, stupid way of how I looked at life—me, happy endings there. What changed is me taking responsibility for the consequences of others, let's say, my bite is too short and all hell breaks loose. You're going to read about it the next day and it's going to be embarrassing. And there are going to be consequences with who might want to hire me for a job. I never used to think about any of that stuff.

When did you change?
When I sat down in my house as they were taking away the furniture and everybody—everything was gone except me and the dog, yeah (laughter).

What are your biggest regrets about?
Every f—g thing. I made 10 million mistakes as if I can't say that I made a million mistakes and then I have a million regrets, then I'm a jerk or s—t. I have a lot of regrets. I did a lot of stupid stuff... I looked at Boris—she's 20 years old and she was in the limo up

trailer reading a book, being very proper, knowing her lines and she was always on time. I mean, why the? It wouldn't do that? That's a regret. It's not a big one but well, it is a big one.

So do you still have dreams?
Just nightmares, yeah.

With your admission of all your mistakes and ups and downs, what advice can you give to someone like Robert Downey Jr. who is also back?
He's been around long enough. He should know better. I think he's working now. He's doing all right now, I heard. I just wish him luck. You know, step off the pipe, brother.

You said that you used to be very angry but...
Pls, but I'm still angry. I am just not saying it.

So these days, what makes you angry and where you do, how do you control yourself?
(Sighs) I have a dog about this big and I kick him in the ass really hard (laughter).

I told you much already. I am just going along for the ride now, just watching and listening, and I'm flapping my wings too much because it's nice to be back to work. I don't want to rock the boat anymore. My ass is very sore. I have been sitting on it for a long time.

And how do you deal now with fame now?
The only thing I could say is, people come up to me in the late-90s crowds, and they go, "Oh, you're back." I look at them like, you don't know where the f-k I've been for 14 years. You don't know what it's like when you've been gone so long that it doesn't feel like you're back. You still feel like you're in the middle of no-it's like, it's nice to have the lid off but you can still smell hers.

But don't you feel that this self-loving makes you a better actor?
Yeah, but sometimes you could be obvious about it and not put yourself in a place where you have to suffer so much.

So you still struggle every day?
The old demon is still there. I have to keep him quiet.

We are glad that you came for this interview because we hadn't seen you in a long time.
Well, nobody wanted to talk to me for 14 years so I am glad to be here.

E-mail the columnist at rmopalas_10k@yahoo.com.

Join us for a glorious night of Hungarian operettas.

In 2005, the 16th Toyota Classics brings you something entirely new and definitely exciting – Hungarian operetta, which offers magnificent performances of singing, dancing and instrumentals reflecting exquisite Hungarian culture. This year's tour is performed by the Budapest Operetta Theatre Orchestra, conducted by István Silló and features soprano Zsuzsa Kalocsai, winner of the TZ Rose award in Munich, Germany, and tenor Zoltán Nyári, recipient of the Mari Jászai Award. The concert will also present a solo performance from renowned Filipina soprano, Ms. Alegria Ocampo Fortes. Come, join the Toyota Classics and enjoy an unforgettable musical experience with one of Europe's finest operettas.

Toyota Classics 2005

November 13, 2005 | 6:30 PM, Sunday
The Cultural Center of the Philippines, Main Theater

TICKET PRICES: Parterre P10,000/box • Lower Boxes P8,000/box • Upper Boxes P6,000/box • Orchestra Center P1,000 • Orchestra Side P1,000 • Balcony Center P500 • Balcony Side P300

TOYOTA
TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES CORPORATION

Elliot wasn't Scott, right, or the baby, the actor says, the movie wouldn't have interested him at all.

FROM ATN of Singapore, via e-mail:
"I just want to say that Alec (Mekouke) has always been a talented offender/troublemaker because she is my youngest b— so I am not surprised at all."

FEEDBACK

FROM Patrick Charles Castillo of Jodhi, via e-mail:
It is such a pity that Quezon City surprises have a crooked like Ms. (Julia) Mekouke who always wants to be in the limelight.

Filipino, Indian priests killed

KINGSTON, JAMAICA – TWO TRAPPIST RO-man Catholic priests from India and the Philippines were shot dead as they vandered during an early-morning hunt in the mountains outside Kingston, police said Friday.

Police said they believed the nine bullet may have killed Suresh Bosco, who was from India, and Marco Laspuna, from the Philippines.

Bosco died on the spot in the kitchen of the Mandeville rectory where Thursday night while Laspuna died in his capital four hours later.

The incident happened at about 9 p.m. in the mountainous ganga Cocpit District of Kingston, Jamaica has one of the highest murder rates in the world.

Father Richard McLaug, head of the Roman Catholic missionary order told reporters: "We had just finished having supper and the brothers were in the kitchen washing dishes when a bullet went through the brother's head." McLaug said none of the missionaries had an idea where the Intrapreneur from. AFP

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, October 30, 2005
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:1-2, 8-10

God encourages us to speak God-ward

For I am a great King and my Name is respected through all the nations, says Yahweh of armies.

Concern yourself to glorify my Name, says Yahweh of hosts. I will send the curse on you and turn your blessing into curses.

But you, says Yahweh of hosts, have strayed from my way and misinterpret sacred texts to stumble because of your teaching. You have broken my covenant with Levi. Therefore I will make people despise you and consider you unworthy, because you do not follow my ways and you show partiality in your judgments.

Do we not all have the same father? Has the same God not created all of us? Why, then, does each of us betray the brother, defiling the consecrated way of our ancestors?

2nd Reading: 1st Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13

God, a gentle nurturer of the Lord

We were gentle with you, as a nursing mother who fondles and cuddles her baby. And so great is our concern that we are ready to give you, as well as the Gospel, even our very lives, for you have become very dear to us.

Remember our labor and toil: when we preached the gospel, we worked day and night so as not to be a burden to you.

This is why we never cease giving thanks to God for, on receiving our message, you accepted it, not as human teaching, but as the word of God. That is what it really is, and as such it is at work in you who believe.

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

Do not practice what they preach

Jesus tells the crowds and his disciples:

"The teachers of the Law and the Pharisees are in the seat of Moses. So you should do and observe all they say, but do not do as they do. For they do not what they say. They tie up heavy burdens and load them on the shoulders of the people, but they do not even raise a finger to move them. Then do everything in order to be seen by people: they wear very wide bands of the Law in and their fringes, and adorn with large tassels. They enjoy the first place at feasts and reserved seats in the synagogues, and being greeted in the marketplaces and being called 'Master' by the people.

"But you, do not let yourselves be called Master because you have only one Master, and all of you are brothers and sisters. No: One should you call anyone on earth Father because you have only one Father: he who is in heaven. Nor should you be called leader, because Christ is the only leader for you. Let the greatest among you be the servant of all. For whoever makes himself great shall be humbled, and whoever humbles himself shall be made great."

Commentary

Jesus preaches quickly to the people, warning them not to do what the leaders do, for in that the word they speak. They don't also what they say. Leaders are the servant of the whole and they struggling just to survive. They are intent on their own positions and being seen. All must remember that we are all the children and servants of Jesus. In our families we call God, GOD/FATHER and Christ is our only leader the 'steadfast' one. Instead of God. We must imitate Jesus who humbled himself coming to us and we are to care for one another as Jesus has cared for us, revealing God's concern for us all. Humanities manifold activity choose of our calling as the beloved children of God and we must live humbly, with the understanding that it is not God who has loved us and brought us to live with one another in justice and peace. We must be careful that we do not become leaders in the line, and not live lives that deny our word. The cross is always present for us to be helped on our part and our lives' manifestation which would see God born in us about us?

Abu Sayyaf member in Sipadan kidnap shot dead in Jolo

JOLO – ONE OF THE ABU SAYYAF RE-scapers who helped abduct Western tourists from a beach resort in Sipadan, Malaysia, in 2000 has been shot dead by a policeman in Jolo, an official said Saturday.

Lakang Hasal, who took part in the abduction of 21 Germans, French, Finnish and South African tourists and Malaysian staff Sipadan resort workers, was killed last Friday police operations chief Inspector Romeo Enad.

Officer-in-charge Enad said Hasal resisted when Enad and three other gunmen were clearing out his house and could extend them. Enad then drew a pistol but Enad shot him first, causing the three other gunmen to flee, Enad recalled.

Police said they believed Enad said the others intended to kill Enad, who [illegible] to arrest Hasal for [illegible].

The Abu Sayyaf has been involved in the worst militant attacks in the Philippines.

Most of the captives in the Sipadan incident were freed only after a hefty ransom was paid. AFP

Bunye on US Embassy report: Fiction!

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY FLATLY denied that President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered her bodyguards disarmed at one point, and that reason for former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano had used his family home in Mandaluyong as a hideout.

"I have to congratulate you. Your fiction storyline are getting better," Presidential Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a text message to the Inquirer.

For its part, the Presidential Security Group denied that it had at any point ordered Ms Arroyo's security detail to be stripped of their arms.

"All the President's bodyguards carry firearms with them, that is my policy. That has not been changed at my point," said PSG head Brig. Gen. Jesus Bongit in a phone interview.

Although he could not get into too much detail on the PSG's security policies, Bongit said all bodyguards of Ms Arroyo had gone through a long process of training and background checks before they were hired for the job.

"We are professional soldiers and protecting the President is part of our job," said Bongit. He refused to divulge the size of Ms Arroyo's pool of bodyguards.

On reports that Ms Arroyo had wanted her bodyguards to be unarmed, Bongit said that I have some "technical."

However, a Malacañang official said that it was a matter of policy not to allow bodyguards to carry heavy guns when assigned close to the President.

"This is standard operating procedure in all security coverage of heads of state. Close-in bodyguards should always be unarmed because they could be a threat to the one they are protecting," the official said.

The same official also disputed the claims that Ms Arroyo had allowed her security detail to serve as sidekicks for Garcillano.

"Her home is in Tarlac, Lanao del Norte. It is inside Timberge Springs, a secret hill of people every day and her house is open to the public during daylight hours," the source said.

JULIUS BABAO: It was audio-expert Jonathan Tiongco who presented for Santos

GMA doubted PSG–US Embassy report

(Story on page A8)

time, Teofilo Bongit denied the report, saying it was PSG policy for its members to carry firearms with them and if the policy had not changed. (See story above.)

The military report also spoke of Garcillano's supposed whereabouts.

Garcillano's 'hiding place'

"Possibly related to the embattled Philippine President's attempts to retain her position, Comelec Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano is hidden in a house owned by the family of President Arroyo in Rizal," the report said.

The military information appeared to tie with other the Philippine government was to use Islet in the south, specifically on Aug. 16, after Garcillano had flown to Singapore a month earlier, specifically on July 16, and that he left Singapore a day later for an unknown destination.

He was later reported to have gone to Europe.

To this day, his whereabouts are unknown.

'A loose cover'

A Malacañang official, asking not to be identified, dismissed as "fantastic" the claim that the Arroyo government had been used as a safehouse for Garcillano.

The military report erected a loose bond that appeared to be a El government and said that the words "Executive Secretariat" and "Opposition Centre."

The document said that the "report ing officer" at the embassy and the unidentified Filipino military source "had meetings and must see a regular basis."

Same source

"Source is available for resources," the two-page report said.

The report was given to the Inquirer by the same source of the so-called FBI files that were supposedly passed on to Malacañang opposition politicians and became the subject of an impeachment move of seven to last month.

Like some of the other papers, the Aug. 6 report did not contain the name of the embassy official who supposedly prepared it.

Aragon-Ho-Sui and former Philippine police officer Michael Ray Aquino, to whom he also reportedly gave the documents, have been arrested in the United States on charges of spying.

GMA links Julius Babao to bailout of terror suspect

(Story on page A1)

told the Inquirer on Friday that he had received a request from Tiongco—a friend of his—to make a court representation for the grant of bail to Santos.

He said he complied, and then met with Tiongco at the request of the bail.

"I saw Babao at the court because he escorted the lawyer," Adasa said.

In another interview with the Inquirer yesterday, Adasa said there was only one bail hearing, wherein he succeeded in convincing the court to reduce the recommended bail amount of P100,000 to P60,000.

"I am a stickler for guidelines, especially since from Mindanao, who cannot get good lawyers," Adasa said in the course of explaining why he had agreed to stand as Santos' counsel.

'Continuing the story'

Babao confirmed that he covered the hearings at the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 96, where Santos had applied for bail.

"I was the last person he talked to, as I told Santos to continue the story," Babao said.

Judge Adelle Calegal approved the bail, and ordered Santos to surrender to the court.

Media reports said Santos left the body compound at Camp Aguinaldo in an AFP-CBN van that was waiting for him at the gate.

Reports said Santos was arrested by the raids on the strength of a warrant issued in 2002 by a Tarlac court for illegal possession of firearms, explosives and ammunition.

He had earlier posted a bail bond of P90,000 for illegal possession of firearms ordered by the Quezon Branch of Regional Trial Court Branch 96, where Santos had applied for bail.

Santos was arrested by the raids on the strength of a warrant issued in 2002 by a Tarlac court for illegal possession of firearms, explosives and ammunition.

He had earlier posted a bail bond of P90,000 for illegal possession of firearms ordered by the Quezon Branch of Regional Trial Court Branch 96, where Santos had applied for bail.

On March 22 seven men tied to a raid on another alleged RAM safe house in Fairview, Quezon City for illegal raid, firearms supposedly confiscated 10 sacks of ammonium nitrate, a chemical used in the manufacture of bombs, 15 blank ammunition, a personal computer and a camera.

The military said the RAM and the cartographer Alex Satyad had planned to use the explosives in a bombing spree during the Holy Week.

Police sweep

Santos' arrest was part of a police sweep on suspected terrorists following the Feb. 14 bomb blast in a bus at the busy Edsa-Ayala interview in Makati and the March 15 riot at the Camp Bagong Diwa prison.

Arrested along with Santos were Eleanor de Sena (alias Jeanne Ida Ves), Marcelo Cena Egil, Allan Bathgaberto (alias Abdulo), Bedrado Cain Bellona (alias Abdulmanol Bellona) and Angelo Fritchel (alias Ando).

Thrilled was among those sentenced six months to one year by Mandaluyong Trial Court Judge Adelle Calegal after he pleaded guilty to the murder charge in the May 2000 bombing of the SuperFerry 14.

Bedrado Cain was also cited by Lorenzo after he allegedly grabbed a gun and shot his police escort in Camp Crame last December.

Ahmed Santos

According to the police intelligence report, Santos is the brother of Ahmed Ibrahim Santos, a former overseas Filipino worker in the Middle East identified by security agencies as One of the lead leaders of the RAM.

The document said Ahmed (also known as Abu Lakay) organized the RAM and remained its members as terrorists at the Abubakar Santos known to funds sometime in 1999 and 2000.

On May 1, 2002, a police raiding team found a school building devoted to Islamic studies, or a madrasah, at the Santos home. The farm also had watches and firebombs, according to the document.

A follow-up raid on another suspected "training base" located in San Clemente, Tarlac, was conducted on the day of Santos' arrest.

But denied Santos, the alleged leader, eluded the raiding team, the report said.

FVR dares US gov't to explain coup plot report

By Nikko Dizon

NAMING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF US-Philippine relations, former President Fidel V. Ramos last night challenged the United States to explain a US intelligence report implicating him in a supposed plot against Philippine President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"If the US Embassy here in Manila refuses to make any clarification of that sorry report, many to our personality but even told me to the people of the Philippines, I challenge the person in charge of intelligence in Washington DC, and that is former ambassador to the Philippines John Negroponte to overrule all of those subordinates of his in the US Embassy to come out with the truth of the matter," a visibly irked Ramos said.

"Is there such a report? What is the content of the report?"

Negroponte is now serving as the inaugurated intelligence services of the United States.

At one point, the 70-year-old former President said: "This is an effort at spoiling the good solid bilateral and personal relations between the Philippines and the US."

Ramos' outburst was triggered by a story in the Bulletin about a US embassy report dated June 30th, 24 months ago.

According to the report, Ramos gave his former national security adviser, Jose Almonte, until June to implement the plan against Ms Arroyo.

Ramos spoke in a press conference held at the US government hotel, to explain the alleged embassy report for the sake of the strong alliance of the Philippines and the United States.

"Since even the US Embassy refuses to clarify anything about that report, which I have not seen, it is corrupt in your newspaper, I now challenge the US Treasury beginning with the acting ambassador to come out with his ordinary explanation."

Ramos added: "It is only fair to the Philippine government and to our people that a good ally such as the US, should come out with their explanation. First, what is the report? Second, how come it is that the hands of just one newspaper?"

'Obviously wrong'

The former President has been credited with playing a major role in bringing Ms Arroyo to power when he rallied Edsa II to her side to support her shortly after 18 of his senior officials resigned and urged her to step down.

Ramos also said he was "reaching strongly" to the Inquirer story because it was in the headlines "and it is obviously wrong, and so I am concerned."

Asked why the public seemed to believe that he was still interested in returning to power, Ramos blamed the "incorrect" media reports for maintaining rank.

He noted that he had already proclaimed that in the event of a shift in a parliamentary system, Congress has a law prohibiting former presidents, like himself, from running for prime minister and limiting the choice of prime ministers to those aged 50 to 65 years.

The FBI dossiers which were the subject of the Bulletin stories were believed to be part of the files allegedly stolen by the Hello former FBI Ambassador Lauralee Aragon-Ho and passed on to opposition personalities here.

Embassy spokesperson Matthew Lauzenberg has said that "it is the longstanding practice of the embassy [not to] comment on reports based on stolen documents provided by unauthorized sources."

Irresponsible

Ramos said that the US government must first explain the alleged report's existence before embassy officials continue with their silence.

He said that if the documents were classified, he believed the "US government must send it to the Philippine government, either on a President-to-President basis or on a national direction on scientific grounds between intelligence. Generally speaking, basis, in exchange official communication about this."

Ramos described the supposed embassy report as "irresponsible."

'Look at history'

Ramos also defended himself by reminding the media to "look at history."

He said that as Armed Forces chief of staff and subsequently defense secretary, he helped then President Corazon Aquino beat back nine coup attempts during her tenure.

From beyond the grave, love leads to new 'virgin' love

(Story on page A2)

Retired business executive Alfredo Filipper says that with a yearning in his voice but none with a lightness that blurs any tone to irony with her deceased absence.

With the passing of time, he says, her presence in his life has become more pronounced. Grief has lifted and he is moving on, around she is with him every step of the way.

Filipper's wife Julia left this world 13 years ago her remembrances—a mythic communion—between them continues to this day, he says.

If grief led to way, Filipper, now 75, should be in a very sore but, to his and his doctors' surprise, he is experiencing unprecedented vigor and health.

Not only that, physical ailments have either vanished or been kept at bay.

His recent 76-pin removal of 9020, his ever-virgin love for Julia and him for him. Because of those, Filipper has not required any medicine for his heart condition, except nothing the efficacy of the so-called ideal life.

Human guinea pig

"I was more pressuring myself as a human guinea pig in the search for a cure for my heart," he said. "Physically, I don't want to be exposed to the virus, even consume the most of an infected chicken. There, of course, should be done in the context of a supervised scientific experiment. I will sign a waiver freeing anybody of any responsibility for whatever I happen to say."

Just say where, when, how.

Filipper feels sure the experiment would prove something—that VCO could be a weapon against the dreaded bird flu virus (H5N1) that would instill expertise countrywide millions of people.

The virus has killed 4 Thailand and more than a hundred people in various countries in Asia and Europe. While the virus has not reached the Philippines, health officials have warned that it is not a matter of if but of when.

Filipper's point coconut oil (VCO) is effective in a death with disease or ailment? "Yes, this is not a closely-held," he told the Inquirer. He had long been over that.

How then did this desire come about? Who, what pushed him?

An engineering graduate of the University of the Philippines, Filipper had his own business to be in the field of food. He knew he needed to do something to counter ill health in US businesses, such as the famous Mayo Clinic.

Oil of youth

"I am like a mad scientist," Filipper said.

He is not afraid to say the efficacy of certain products on himself. VCO surprised him, made him feel as if he had suddenly found the oil of youth.

In 2000, Filipper said, he tried making some VCO at home. He read a book about its health benefits and wanted to try it. He took several teaspoons at the oil every day and later increased the intake to tablespoonfuls.

"Since childhood, I had always been constipated," he explained. Moreover, Filipper said, the regularity seemed to feel and alcohol. One tip was enough to make him sick.

Build several years ago he was taking an anti-arthritic drug. One day, his cardiologist told him he also needed a coronary operation.

"After taking VCO regularly in 2001, I noticed changes in myself," he said. "I was taking the golf balls better and I could hear well."

Believe in the just with cholesterol elements, he has not had a cold since 2001.

Trying the limits

"The mad scientist" seemed to try his limits. He asked a relative to make brewed coffee and regular (but had cup after cup after cup. To Filipper surprise, he was not jittery. Instead, after of five cups, he also loved the brew.

"I said, wow, I am addicted all my life." At steps recently after that.

Alcohol was next. Filipper bought all kinds of strong spirits. First he tried beer and whiskey, a bad combination. But he was okay. Then he tried brandy, cognac and vodka, all in succession. But he was still as his best.

He was amazed.

When the eye doctor told him he would need an operation for his coronary in a few months, Filipper said he'd think it over. A series of tests confirmed he needed surgery.

Cataracts gone

"I decided to use VCO as an alternative," Filipper said. He used the oil every day for two months without his doctor knowing about it.

"I went back to the doctor. After he examined my eyes he said, 'Hey, hey, what happened here? You don't need an operation.' I just went to another doctor, who said the same thing."

Jars and Julie

Jar Filipper and Julie Reyes were married for 48 years. Their marriage was blessed with eight children.

"I am a very lucky man," Filipper said.

They met at the University of the Philippines on Padre Faura when they were in their teens. He studied mechanical engineering, she took up pharmacy. Shortly after he passed the board exams, the two tied the knot at the Malate Church.

"We got married rather early," Filipper recalled. "because Julie's family was leaving for abroad. She had to make a decision to either go or to stay. He is then 'am among the first graduates of West Point and had served as the Filipino aide of Gen. Douglas MacArthur."

It was a happy union.

"I remember somebody growing old together," Filipper mused.

In 1990, Julie got sick of cancer and underwent chemotherapy and radiation for three years.

She died in 1993, leaving him devastated.

"We were all together in the hospital," he recalled. "She didn't want us to be sad and was telling anecdotes. When we were alone she talked about our children ... Then she asked us to all go home and rest. She died a few hours later. I must not there and then was really hard for me."

The first two years were most difficult.

"I told our bosses in Valle Verde in Pasig because her absence there was unbearable," Filipper said. "Everything reminded me of her. I wanted to die in order to be with her."

He felt like he was groping in the darkness. "But I thought, maybe God had assigned her to do something. And now that she is done with it I can feel her presence."

Julie was cremated at last.

Filipper has since transferred to a new place in San Antonio Village in Makati. He visits Julie's resting place several times a month.

"I go there to pray. I talk to her in the context of prayers, sometimes silently, sometimes aloud."

It is during those moments when he is in deep prayer that he says Julie speaks to him, in a way that could be heard only within the heart.

'My favorite teacher'

Flushed with the positive effects of VCO, Filipper wants to give back and give of himself. The first he aims to test and is there something he could do?

"I asked Julie in prayer, what I should do," he said. "I could see Julie with her finger pointedly upward. She said, 'Look for my favorite teacher.'"

He recalled that Sr. Consolo Sauvé was his favorite teacher.

A famous pharmacologist, candidate, and medical science researcher, Sauvé has since entered that shrouded life of the religious. Filipper has been in touch and is close to Sauvé's "secret ministry."

Myself has himself made study proposals on the herd the virus and VCO to the health department. He thought Filipper's proposal should not be ignored.

Now, Filipper said, "I could see Julie chuckling."

Strict monitoring to keep bird flu out during SEA Games

By Christine Cayiban

FOREIGNERS PARTICIPATING IN THE Southeast Asian Games in Manila in late November will receive emails from the third week onward, being implemented here to prevent the entry of the dreaded avian flu virus into the country.

Many of the athletes, sports officials and trainers who are expected to arrive for the SEA Games in the next few weeks are from the seven flu-affected countries of Thailand, Burma (Myanmar), Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Malaysia.

Subject to rules

They will have to be subjected to the system of rules and acceptable behavior drawn up by the authorities to ensure that the Philippines remains bird flu-free, agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban told a press briefing on Friday.

Panganiban said Bureau of Animal Industry had asked Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, the president of the Philippine Olympic Committee, to adopt "biosecurity measures" and guidelines drawn up by the bureau for the duration of the games, which will run on Nov. 27.

'Biosecurity' guidelines

In a letter to Cojuangco on Oct. 26, BAI Director Dorrien Calbaqui urged the Philippine Olympic Committee to impose these strict "biosecurity" guidelines for the participating officials, coaches and support staff of the SEA Games.

He said the POC should transmit the guidelines as part of its travel advisory to participating countries.

The foreigners to come are prohibited from visiting any live poultry facilities in their home countries — like farms, hatcheries or poultry processing plants — at least 72 hours before their scheduled arrivals in Manila.

Just before departure, they are to put on clean clothes and wear shoes that could easily be cleaned upon arrival in Manila.

They are not to bring in any live poultry, wild and domestic poultry meat, and other related products.

Body temperature screening

Upon arrival in the Philippines, they would have to go through such protocols as foot baths and body temperature screening at the airport.

They are to proceed directly to their places of residence in the Philippines and change clothes immediately. The clothes would have to be washed immediately. Shoes used should also be immediately disinfected with alcohol or any house disinfectant.

But foreigners in Luzon not called on to cite any live poultry facilities or poultry processing plants during the entire length of their stay in the Philippines.

The Philippines, Singapore and Brunei are the only Southeast Asian countries still free of the deadly H5N1 strain of flu virus that has killed thousands of bird and poultry and caused the deaths of 62 people in the region.

The WORLD

Editor Lorraine B. Greco

Lying charge rocks Bush administration

WASHINGTON—A FEDERAL GRAND JURY DRAMATICALly charged top White House aide I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby Friday with lying to investigators in a CIA leak probe that has rocked President George W. Bush's administration.

Libby, 53, announced his resignation as Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff after he was indicted in a case which gripped both conservatives and liberals in the US nationale for over with Iraq.

He faces one count of obstruction of justice, two counts of perjury and two counts of making false statements to investigators under the grand jury looking into the leaking of the identity of a CIA agent.

Libby faces as many as 30 years in jail and a $1.25 million fine if convicted on all five counts laid by special prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald, which carry the prospect of a gripping and potentially politically damaging trial.

Bush's political guru Karl Rove, also in Fitzgerald's sights during a two-year probe, was not indicted but will remain under investigation, his lawyer said.

"When rumors swirly before grand juries, they are required to tell the truth," said Fitzgerald, who has previously indicted Drums Mr Libby, politicians and embassies.

"The requirement to tell the truth applies equally to all citizens including persons who hold high positions in government."

Fitzgerald was tasked with finding out whether senior Bush administration officials broke the law by knowingly exposing CIA agent Valerie Plame.

Plame's husband, former diplomat Joseph Wilson, had claimed his views was blown to Cheney's aide Libby, after he questioned whether the Bush administration had "twisted" intelligence in the push to war with Iraq.

The indictment was a severe blow to Bush after the defeat of his Supreme Court pick Harriet Miers and his struggles with high gasoline prices, falling approval ratings and the fallout from Hurricane Katrina.

Libby's exit also is seen as a loss to a White House in which he has been considered most influential, particularly on foreign policy. He functions as a chief of staff, but he also knows Cheney's thinking on defense and national security issues better than anyone else," says James Bamr, author of a book about the Bush administration's national security team.

Bush told the proceedings were "very sad" but insisted Libby, saying "he came here unselfed the book of the American people and you find much on the service to this country. He served the vice president and me through extraordinary times in our nation's history."

Libby said in a statement that he had done nothing wrong. "I am confident that at the end of this process I will be completely and totally exonerated."

Fitzgerald alleged that Libby lied to FBI agents who interviewed him on Oct. 14 and Nov. 26, 2003 and to the grand jury in March 2004.

The charges said Libby obstructed the course of justice by impeding the grand jury investigation into the unauthorized disclosure of Plame's identity.

Libby was the highest-ranker charged with knowingly blowing the cover of Plame (the alleged offense that triggered Fitzgerald's investigation).

Fitzgerald told Reuters yesterday that he had not decided yet whether to indict Sen. Pete's lawyer Robert Luskin said, adding he was confident his client would be cleared.

Fitzgerald's conclusions will center on how ever whether the administration unprudent participation to discredit the key witness in 2003, at the start of a conflict which this week claimed the 2,000th US military death.

Senator John Kerry, the Democratic rider to Bush in the 2004 election, said the Bush administration "is effectively indicted in the high court of history" over its drive to war with Iraq.

The Washington Post, in an editorial, said that "the charges of perjury and obstruction of justice filed yesterday against Libby are serious and appear to be backed by substantial evidence."

Still, "nothing in this indictment suggests a broad-based conspiracy that required outside further investigations by Congress or others. Nor does this case seem to unfold charges that President Bush misled the country about the grounds for war," the Post underscored. AFP

LIBBY: Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff, testifies on Capitol Hill in this March 1, 2001 photo. —

Low-profile prosecutor stops capital on its tracks

By Todd S. Purdum

WASHINGTON—THE CAPITAL STOPPED in its tracks on Friday to watch a trim, plain, soft-spoken prosecutor educate voters it had barely heard in two years and the most important aide to the most powerful vice president in American history a fair. Nobody, nobody had. Barely—and even said even again.

By 3:30 P. that the prosecutor, Patrick J. Fitzgerald, brought no charges on the issue that prompted his investigation—whether someone in the government committed a crime by leaking the classified CIA identity of the wife of one of the sharpest critics of the Bush administration's rationale for war with Iraq, the offered renewed evidence of that defeat of Washington culture. The cover-up is always worse than the crime.

In an hour-long, live television news conference, Fitzgerald said that Irch Cheney's chief of staff, I. Lewis Libby, had repeatedly told FBI agents, and later a federal grand jury, that he was "just passing gossip from one reporter to another in the end of a long chain of phone calls" about the identity of the agent, Valerie Plame Wilson. "It would be a compelling story that would lead the FBI to go racing," Fitzgerald said. "It only it were true."

"He didn't get the straight story," Fitzgerald said, explaining his indictment's secret investigation and sometimes tortuous process. "And we had to—had to—take action."

As Fitzgerald spoke from the Justice Department, the cable television networks showed only more, sometimes split-screen images of somber-progressed live speeches by President Bush at the White House and Cheney in Indianapolis, Ga.

Bush had begun the day by leaving the presidential, for a speech to Norfolk, Va., in which he thanked his audience "for the chance to get out of Washington." He smiled, I with a tense, angry-looking expression of regret at Libby's resignation, standing out the South Lawn of the White House, just yards from the spot where Clinton spoke defiantly on the day of his impeachment, before joining his cross-cultural Supreme Court nominee, the late E. Rhnes, for the helicopter flight to Camp David for the weekend.

Valerie Wilson's husband, former Ambassador Joseph Wilson IV, who cast doubt on the administration's pretext assertion that Iraq had tried to buy uranium from Niger, did not get his wish to see Bush's chief political aide, Karl Rove, "frog-marched" toward the White House. Fitzgerald brought no charges against Rove. But the investigation is not closing, preventing the president from losing skin to make a munchmeal of the clothes.

And Fitzgerald's unexpected charges that Libby had repeatedly denied his knowledge of Valerie Plame's job before his own aides showed that Cheney was one of those who told him soon explicitly that she was involved in counter-proliferation work at the CIA kept alive questions about whether the administration misled Congress and the public at wide in its fervid crusade for a war with Iraq that this week rose to 2,000th fatality. "New York Times News Service

Iran president stands by call for Israel's destruction

TEHRAN—PRESIDENT MAHMOUD Ahmadinejad, cheered by thousands of supporters, signaled on Friday that he stood by his call for Israel to be wiped off the map.

But Ahmadinejad's remarks were condemned by the UN Security Council later on Friday, saying all UN members should refrain from threatening or using force against another country.

Iranian shouting "death to Israel" and "death to America," converged from nine points in the Iranian capital to be orally attended by most of Iran's top officials. Some protestors set fire to a transparent in Israeli and US flags.

Ahmadinejad took a short walk to the crowd, rallying in support of his comments that the Islamic world could not tolerate the Jewish state in its heartland. He said Western criticism rested in weight.

"My words are the Iranian nation's words," he told the official IRNA news agency, when asked if he had a message for the world.

"Westerners are here to comment, but their reactions are invalid."

The Islamic Republic has never achieved, edged Israel's right to exist. It denies Gaining and causing Palestinians militant groups dedicated to Israel's destruction but says it gives them moral support.

The UN condemnation, endorsed by all 15 council members, was delivered in the form of a press statement—rather than as a formal council meeting, which would give it more weight.

Algeria, the only Arab council member, objected to the open meeting.

"The members of the Security Council condemn the remarks about Israel attributed to H.E. Mr Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, president of the Islamic republic of Iran," said Mihnea Motoc, Romania's ambassador and current president. Reuters

UN warns of fierce winter in Kashmir quake region

GENEVA—UN WORKERS EXpects said on Friday unusually low temperatures and heavy snowfall would mean hit areas of northern Kashmir, jeopardizing efforts to feed and shelter survivors of the South Asian earthquake.

Aid agencies renewed appeals for funds to keep open a lifeline to the millions left homeless in mountainous parts of the Himalayas by the Oct. 8 quake, many of them injured.

"The situation is getting more and more desperate," said Sue Lautze, of Mercy Corps for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said that winter was only three weeks away and its full reports suggested the weather would be unusually cold in the stricken mountain areas.

"Its latest overview indicates that another harsh winter is approaching for the earthquake-stricken area. Snowfalls expected to considerably exceed the normal range, both in frequency and quantity," WMO spokesman Mark Obrien told a news conference.

Snow has already fallen in some remote districts, he said.

From December to February temperatures were likely to be

"well below normal", said Obrien. "But remote even for temperature, are likely to stay around degrees below freezing, especially in the mountain ranges," he added.

In January temperatures could plunge to minus 10 Celsius (minus 4 Fahrenheit) at night.

The World Health Organization warned there could be a second wave of deaths. "We cannot wait to see increase of preparedness to avert deaths of dying of preventable disease before we act," said Abu Shwan, in charge of health services in areas of the WHO.

UN agencies said a major donors' meeting in Geneva this week had raised less little, and a huge cash shortfall. Threatened to ground helicopters and interrupt food supplies for numerous dozens

2 new bird flu deaths suspected in Vietnam

HANOI—TWO PEOPLE SHOWING SYMPTOMS of the bird flu virus have died in the past week in Vietnam, where the disease has recently killed more than 60 people, hospital officials said on Saturday.

"It's very very clear that all the critical symptoms pointed to bird flu," Dr. Nguyen Ngoc Tu, the director of the Vietnam-Cuba Hospital in Dong Hoi, central Vietnam, said.

The Tuoi Tre (Youth) newspaper quoted a report from the hospital in Quang Binh province as saying the victims, a 24-year-old girl and a 26-year-old man, had eaten duck and a chicken's egg around a week before they got sick.

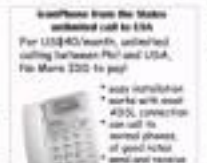
The girl was admitted to hospital on Oct. 21 and died on Oct. 23 and the man died on Oct. 24 within an hour of arriving at the hospital. Their bodies had been sent home to be buried, Tu said.

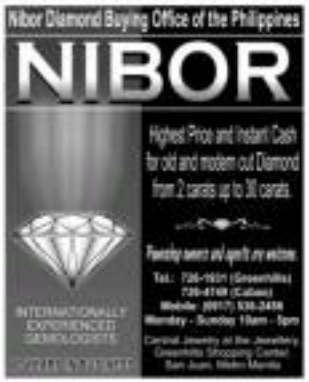
He said the victims were not related and from different towns in the province, about 500 kilometers (300 miles) south of Hanoi.

"People are raising absolutely no caution at all and chicken and ducks are still consumed normally, which is very worrying," said one health official at the Ba Tri district clinic.

Officials also said poultry flocks in the two districts had not been vaccinated against bird flu due to lack of resources.

Most human bird flu infections can also be handled birds sick with the virus or contact with their droppings. Cooked chicken is not a known source of infection. Reuters





'Direk' Elwood, comeback kid

The filmmaker returns to his roots with a play about people he knows best—show biz denizens

By Rayvel San Diego Jr.

PITH Allen Dizon, one of the stars of "Private Party"

IN THE THE 1960S, HE was considered as Lily Monteverde's favorite director, after churning out a series of hits like "Summer Love," "Santo Cristo is Coming to Town," "Till We Meet Again" and "I Can't Stop Loving You" for Regal Films.

He was also touted as one of the most sought after unfledged good directors.

Elwood often swung from such cheese melodramas to romance about his humble beginnings in the late 1960s.

He recalls: "I used to write for a society, arts and culture show called 'Bb. Pinoy sa Iba't Ibang Kasuotan' (Miss Philippines and the grand balls theme) by Imelda Marcos."

He loved fashion/things with the rich and famous. "But my talent for that show was only PLUP."

But PTV, he also worked as "station assistant director and talent coordinator for 'Un the musical show 'Themix Mixmo,' starring Phoemi Ambrosio and directed by Lucjet Aquino-Kuchenero."

A protégé of Lupita, he soon became a regular scriptwriter, storyliner director, for the TV drama anthology "Institutions."

"My first roleplay for 'Balintawak' was bought for P100," he proudly recounts. "They called me the writer in title of 'Balintawak' because I was the youngest writer-director and finished drama that some staged, like teenaged anxiety-role playing and other teen-centric-ity.

"Balintawak" proved to be his springboard to filmmaking.

In the episode on Juan Tamad-mayaman, he worked with Fred Gorne Jr., son of screen legends Anita Linda and Fred Gorne.

It was Fred Jr. who recommended Elwood to co-write direction for "Blue Boy" under Jeto Productions in 1970. "That's why I have a soft spot for Anita Linda ... I always get her to act in my movies," Elwood says.

He collaborated with another icon, Nora Guzman, in "Blue Boy" and later with Boots Ric in "Pinay, American Style" in 1979.

Good breaks

His career has been a string of good breaks from people whom he says he will be forever grateful to. "Like Boots Gervasio, I have no sense on location in Baguio and Boots extended to us the same accommodations given to him. At that time, he was already a big name in Cinema and I was just a fledgling writer."

Elwood and Boots will be reunited in the stage play "Private Party," Nov. 19 and Dec. 2 at the Music Museum.

Elwood will direct and write the screenplay for the show in a play packed with elements that the home knows best—about his dominos.

"With the play, I'm coming full circle," Elwood says. "I started in stage theatres. I now find solace in friend called me, 'Why are you giving over all to the theater?'

The reason is that Elwood was "soothed and inspired by the work ethic" of his actors, led by Bebot, Allen Dizon, Yves Flores, Mimi Tayko, Vivian Lobaton and Wilma Doesnt, among others.

"They've committed to their craft," Elwood says of the cast. "The younger ones are learning a lot about improvisation and comic timing from their interactions with Bebot and Vangie."

Private Party will also serve as directorial for Allen, who is soon starring in Elwood's big-screen comeback, "Security."

"I directed some of our best dramatic actors like Christopher de Leon and Gelli Cooper[illegible] when they were younger," he says. "Now I hope to help Allen make the big leap from bold to drama movies."

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2005

'Legend of Zorro' a pleasant distraction

REVIEW

THE BIGGEST FAN: Catherine Zeta-Jones and the precocious Adrian Alonso

By Ellen M. Pakenham
Daily News

Zeta-Jones gets to kick more butt here than Banderas does ... and the kid's a scene-stealer

THIS IS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF a Hollywood sequel that's self-contained enough to be enjoyed on its own. "The Legend of Zorro" continues the saga of the masked champion of the masses, following the success of its 1998 predecessor, "The Mask of Zorro." This action-packed swashbuckler gets to further develop the married characters from the first movie, sprawling Alejandro Zorro (Antonio Banderas) and Elena Calderón Zorro (Catherine Zeta-Jones). The couple's intriguing secret lives become more challenging when their trouble-making young son Joaquin (Adrian Alonso) joins the fray.

The story is told historically over two different flashbacks, as explained. Alejandro still continues to run a close race in the swashbuckling area in black, as he's rarely unmasked to patriotic Creole citizens, much to Lovely Elena's perpetual disappointment. Zorro is definitely not a brooding, night-walking fantasy in this sequel, as he has a smart wife whom he must answer to. Nope, he's no longer a dashing outsider; in fact, he has Zorro justice to mete as property owners.

The script is snappy and makes use of fun, tongue-in-cheek dialogue here and there, yet it presents a simplistic tale of the lovely couple's fiery double-pistol romance (you waterboard California in the end, 1850s Texas are legion, lovable homicidal crooks, evil unarmed villains involved in vast conspiracies and adventure-seekers—Americans. Quel possible, a rather dark one that perpetuates the legend of a delightful mystery vigilante.

But for all the bowling action and the spark-filled interaction between Banderas and the breathtakingly beautiful Zeta-Jones, the film has a good share of eye-rolling moments, particularly when the couple's son Joaquin gets built up as a love-action sequence in the possible future successor to the Zorro mantle. This character, while charismatic, gets pretty annoying when he's supposed full, the kid actor shows some promising, but with a widespread enthusiasm to the misdirection and misbehavior, he's a dramatic drain.

All in all, "Zorro" character figures as central to such, but action, because tales gets to kick on both it seems that Zorro himself that's quite a right to behold—yes, we can't say that enough—plus Elena is sympathetic as a shy, corrupt to save determined to protect her job and love. "The Legend of Zorro" gets to underscore a "we're all in this together" message. From the beginning, civilian and soldiers work. "Zorro, in your every and trusting in peace, nevertheless, it will forever need that dynamic—here for the genuine part of its meaning. I hope of more heroes and 'El' moments.

INQUIRER

OPINION

Have your say! Send your feedback: inquirer.opinion@inquirer.com.ph or 1937 Sembrano cor. Bilibid Viejo, Quiapo, Manila

Publisher Isaac Tarriela
Editor-in-Chief Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc
Managing Editor Jose Ma. D. Nolasco
Associate Editor Ninez P. Cacho-Olivares
Associate Editor for Assistant Editors Rosalinda B. Gonzalez
News Editor Antonio T. Enriquez Jr. • Chief News Desk Chief Nestor B. Felicen
Sports Editor Jonas V. Reyes
Sports Assistant Editor Francisco B. Salvador Jr.
City Editor Dante Lava
Senior News Editor Jose V. Sarmiento Jr.
Editor at Large Ninotchka Rosca
Chief Photographer Edgar G. Gabriel Jr.
Art & Design Director Lenoir A. Villarin

Board of Directors Marixi R. Prieto
President Roberto R. Romulo • Vice-President Isaac Tarriela
Executive Vice President Sylvia G. Banzon
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing Manuel R. Mamaril
Vice President for Finance Peter B. Dizon
Corporate Secretary Nestor P. Lardizabal

Quality Advocate Antonio Rafael Tinio
Circulation Manager Pedro Pio Roces Jr.
Tel. Nos. 896-6000, 896-6001 to 09 • Fax No. 896-2963

All rights reserved. Reproduction of any article or photograph without the written permission of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and the author or photographer is prohibited. Violators are subject to prosecution.

Dead bodies

IT IS, OF COURSE, TOO EARLY TO REACH DEFINitive conclusions, but last week's litany of killings in Central Luzon, beginning with the shooting of Hacienda Luisita labor leader Ricardo Ramos, seems to place the burden of explanation on the controversial Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan.

Since his assignment on Sept. 1 as commanding general of the 7th Infantry Division, at least 16 leaders or members of so-called militant groups in Central Luzon (by the count of Karapatan, a human rights watch group) have been assassinated. The total now includes Ramos, Francisco Rivera, Reyan Bumpangan chair, and Federico de Leon, Pinten Bukidnon president (plus two companions of Rivera, who happened to be jogging with him last Wednesday).

On Thursday, Palparan denied masterminding the killings. "They are automatically blame me for the killings," he said, referring to the militant Left. "They're creating an image of me as a criminal. They make me a symbol of military abuses. They should cease to pressure me from my post."

He said he could not have ordered the killings for two reasons. "Legally, I have no right to order the killings of civilians. My troops in detachments and stations are after rebels." And he said he had barely resumed his post. "If I had planned these, it would have taken me (a) long [time] to carry these out."

But Palparan has a reputation that precedes him: In his two previous postings, he was accused of committing over 500 human rights violations, including the killing of Eden Marcellana, Eddie Gumanoy and other leftist activists. It was to commanding officer of the 204th Infantry Brigade that he earned his grim nickname, the "Butcher of Mindoro." The accusations only continued during his short stint as commanding general of the 8th Infantry Division in Samar.

While Palparan is quick to remind anyone that the cases against him have been dismissed, the reputation he has earned does have its uses, especially among the soldiers who fight the communist insurgency day in, day out.

The problem arises when the commanding officer refuses to make distinctions between underground insurgents and above-ground activists. "There were no big changes [in the 7th ID's area of operations]," he told the Inquirer two weeks ago, revealingly, "except that my arrival has been a thing to the enemy, including the militants." And then again, referring to the party-list groups tossed against his confirmation as low-star general: "We could really outs their connections [to] the CPP-NPA [the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]."

But the last time we checked, widening the dragnet was state policy. Making participation in the political arena more attractive and more accessible is official policy. Thus, Palparan's refusal to follow the government line on the role militant groups can play in matters of state is not a mere difference of opinion; it can easily be viewed as a subversion of orders.

There is suspicion anyone, then, that two army sergeants are the first suspects in the Ramos killing?

More dead bodies

AN OFFICER, HEW TO THE JOB, KNOWN FOR extraordinary discipline and devotion to his men. A battle-tested unit, always in the news. Not least, a reputation for inviting a trail of dead bodies behind.

Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan? Try Basilio Lacson, who assumed the leadership of the Philippine National Police in November 1998. On his first full day as PNP chief, Lacson said his anti-crime campaign "got off to a blazing start" (in the words of the newspaper report): Policemen belonging to Lacson's Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force killed seven alleged robbers and a bystander in Fairview, Quezon City, in what witnesses described as a bloodbath. Sen. Aquilino Pimentel immediately called on the PNP to explain itself. "Otherwise, the apprehensions will continue that extrajudicial killing or vigilante justice is now taking place all over the country." Sen. Raul Roco said he sensed "the beginnings of an evolving partisan mentality."

Today, of course, Lacson is a senator of the realm, and in fact a secondary of the Democratic left opposition. But the extrajudicial killings continue, the long grey line of dead bodies, perhaps, even picking up pace in the last seven years. It is only the political interests, the alignments, that have changed.

'Putting away the lamp'

EDITORIALS

I WAS MOVED BY THE FOLLOWING LETTER written to her cousins by our niece, Clarissa Virginia Cadeau, that I would like to share with you for the moral lesson it suggests in the face of sheer personal tragedy that would have devastated any one without her complete trust in and reliance on the goodness of love and love finds in the binding power of prayer and love. This is what she wrote:

"Last October 4, Melba Moreno-Wilkie succumbed to breast cancer. Tristan Vicente III, Cyd lost his own battle with cirrhosis (more on Caroline). (I), in a span of nine days. I had lost my only brother and my best girlfriend from work. Having my life dismantled by the passing of two persons very close to my heart, how is it that I am still standing?

"Melba and I met in 1975 in the Manila Industrial Research and Development Center. We energetically bonded over befriending the fact that Melba was based in the DOSRC laboratories in Bicutan while I was assigned to the private sector doing administrative services from our Greenhills office. Our friendship was blossomed as encouragers our respective partners, and we met individual families grew, a temporarily bound our children as well.

"In those two friendships go, our close was sounded the foundation of what and space in my interaction, after we left MRDC at different times, each the form of occasional lunches, birthday blow-outs, beauty salon trips, hitting the malls, running over cups of coffee, and Christmas family reunions, up to a point.

"She had hope her confidence to study practical seven even from her relatives, friends, and movements for almost 18 months. She shone. I was only informed about it a few days before her death. I rushed to her bedside but unfortunately she was already disoriented, disturbed and morning myself. She had decided to leave her hospital after her body expressed a second round of chemo when the doctors could no longer agree chemicals into her collapsed veins and her cancer had spread to her liver and bones. She died the next day after I had made my peace with her.

"In her neurological service that I entered, I fancied the fact that I was not there to fight to her kind through the sickness, to help her choose a wig or a turban, or even just to hold her hand through her chemo sessions. But she...then over the no-direction there Melba, the big boss of a multinational firm, was scared to death to make friends with me, to approved me and to love me.

"On the other hand, I take solace in the fact that I was able to help, one way or another, Tristan in plight.

"Since the cause of his cancer, I had tried to be around. I made myself available for every time but wanted or needed to talk. I was able to help take care of Tris' other his first operation. I knew every decision he and his made for his alternative treatment. I shared each happy day and bemoaned every disappointed episode.

SEPARATE OPINION

Augusto A. Cruz

"When I indeed in secondary support, I more than made up for it anyway. My children have encouraged me with the remainder Great Loss, but, a deadened version of pessimist. In the final days, I am happy that my remains were with enough energy and to do so. It helps that I encouraged and was able to spend more than a week with Tris, and that Cindy bonded my call and blessed Tris, with a deep measure of prayer.

"I had stared at death from camera in the faces of my brother and best friend. I had been robbed by this dreadful disease twice in a little over a week. I had personally witnessed how two lethal cures took opposite points of death, and how both failed.

"However, I shall not dwell on this but, rather, hold upon in lesson. God overcomes all evil. No matter how well we cover our disguises, we are not the Omniscient. Pain and woe should prevail. Perseverance increases. Family will always be there, regardless. True friendship knows no bounds. There is no lower state than the present. Never be too remote or too proud to show your feelings. Decision makes no sense in business. Reward yourself, and LOVE. Love is stronger than death." Even in the throes of struggling, it makes me see, through my tears, the beauty of life for real."

My favorite question about the life beyond is a quotation is from Rabindranath Tagore, who said, "Death is not extinguishing the light. It is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come." The dawn must come for all of us. And when a dear, for us, my wife General Hayward Jackson before he breathed his last from a fatal bullet, Tas at once the river and me in the thralls of the river."

Servant of all

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

MY BROTHER DAMONG OSCAR WAS ONE OF those he by a sonny rumor at the Metabolic bridge by the police this Oct. 24. When I saw him after the incident, I said to him: Congratulations, Mamog! You are the first member of our family to be executed!

It was my way of saying I admired him for his courageous and my being was with him in this humbling experience for the sake of service to our people.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mk. 23, 1-12) Jesus speaks about true servanthood. "The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." The true servants of the people are those who sacrifice for the people, not those who sacrifice the people. What has happened to our public servants? They have made the public their servants. They have even made our sacred institutions their own corporate shields to protect their selfish interests and to cover up their dark deeds of corruption. We now have here a case where, instead of becoming a servant of all, the greatest among us has made a servant of us all.

* * *

Fitz people who lie. They always have time for their calls. Fitz people who lie for hire, tax dodge or engage in any Arroyo (Inappropriate adjective) deeds. Don't! What will it all add up to? More lies and more lies. In the meantime, peace and progress are passing us by because our public servants are busy covering their lies.

* * *

Two days ago, I left my cell phone inside the rest room of a Shell station in Bicutan, Paranaque. My panic turned to joy when someone answered my call to my lost cell phone. It was in the office of Edwin Reyes, the owner of the gas station. Edwin, a migrant from Leyte found it and left it there, regardless with his phone number. I would like to publicly thank this Visayan brother for his honesty and integrity and for reminding my belief that Filipinos, in general, are not thieves and liars. Some are, maybe, but not all.

* * *

I'm not very back to Manila from the Holy Land, one of our pilgrims almost passed out because of high blood pressure. Fr. Phil Fernando wanted her to be transferred to the hospital but she insisted to stay. Fr. Phil Fernando wanted her to be transferred to the hospital but she insisted to stay. He would even lower and recuperate, but the pastor would have been of it because of "company policy." And to think this was just over hour before landing. The rule of law, or whatever company policy must be tempered with human consideration and compassion. People in power should not be blinded by their position or become callous to people's feelings and suffering. Fitz with 14.2 Filipinos deployed as servants, the president must remember that she was elected herself and who put "company policy" before human compassion was humbled. Thus is the fate of those who rush decisions. They will be brought down. They will fall.

* * *

On a personal note, allow me to praise and thank God for 25 years in the priesthood. One of 31 ordained last Jan. 25, 1982 at the Divine Word Seminary. Tagaytay, one was killed fighting illegal logging in Mindanao, two left the ministry and 23 of us are still serving in different capacities for the Lord. It's another 19, 2032, our motto when we were ordained in 1982 stood as in our mission last for it. It's and told us to keep our eyes on Jesus, for He is the author and perfecter of our faith. (Heb. 12:2). Looking back over these past 25 years, I see that we did not keep and that we stayed, and really tried. Indeed, our achievements are small compared to God's grace, and so are our failures compared to God's mercy and love. With gratitude because we say, to God be the glory and to us be his mercy!

* * *

Only God knows what I have been through these past 25 years as a priest. A lot of things have happened, as in a lot, and it all came to me. On behalf of all my brother priests, I would like to thank God for all your prayers, understanding and support. On behalf of all my brother priests, I also would like to ask for forgiveness for whatever hurts or scandals we have caused you. Finally, on behalf of my brother priests, I would like to give you my priestly blessing, and assure you of my humble prayers as we journey on.

* * *

Twenty-five years ago I made this ordination prayer: You have called me, Oh Lord, not so much because of me but in spite of me; not so much to become a somebody, but to be a servant to you and to your people. Deep are your ways, O Lord, unsearchable are your judgments. Lord, please pray for me, God's unworthy servant, a sinner, a grateful sinner. Remember those who have gone ahead of us. Much of what we are and what we have right now are a result of their love, and their sacrifices. As our remember them, may they remind us that we carry nothing with us when we leave this world and that what matters most is that we followed the path of truthfulness and righteousness till the end.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be humble, to be the servant of all. Amen.

Beginning to say goodbye

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

AROUND THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, MOST families are already through with the preliminaries to the observance of the All Souls' Day. The tombstones have been washed, the grass has been cut, the flowers have been set aside, and the people for prevailing shade have been put in place. For the more affluent, a thorough house cleaning has been executed and, in purpose for a few in having a day or two off to a traditional family dinner through the All Souls' Day—today has sometimes up and become my one ideal...many Filipinos mark the event by visiting the cemeteries a day earlier, on All Saints' Day bringing all kinds of (un)perishables were eaten for a noon fiesta rather than for a communion with the spirits of our departed. For rich and poor alike, it is a traditional family dinner through the years dating back to the Spanish era and it's a considered part of our Filipino legacy.

For the last few years since 1993, I have always made it a point to devote some time and effort in bringing to the attention of our people the need to view and possibly avoid the obvious hazards of an entire unfortunately headed for one particular place at the same time in the face of increasing costs and inconveniences. It has not been scientifically undertaken advisory, with many friends and relatives indicating that one should not tempt fate by venturing out on the highways and byways on the 2005. In both occasions, nothing untoward occurred, the public welcomed the intervention of the armed forces, something that should not have happened in a functioning democracy.

In many ways, we are haunted by the ghosts of this exercise of popular sovereignty. That is probably why we have an ambivalent relationship to people power—we celebrate its essence, parts promise, but we fear its dark irrational side. It is a revolt against tyranny, but it can also be exploited in the service of reactionary empires. The question is: Can it be institutionalized?

Under our system, when government fails to perform its work, people can run to the Supreme Court to interpret the law and to correct errors in its application. In our current situation, for instance, there are things the Supreme Court can do to address the challenge to the constitutional and in the rule of law. First, it can rule decisively on the question of whether the manner in which the House of Representatives disposed of the three impeachment complaints against Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. was in accordance with a rational understanding of the law. Then, the pending petition before the Court that raises the question

of whether a sitting member of the Cabinet can be designated to an office in addition to his or her primary position and now allows (or, rather, perhaps, because of the realization) that land for burial purposes has become scarce. In the past, Church rituals were conducted in Latin. Here English and Tagalog are used resulting in greater and closer participation by the laity. For a long time, the Sacred Host could only be handled by priests. Today laymen and women assist the religious ministers in the distribution of the Body of Christ during the Holy Communion.

What is it like to visit the cemeteries of Metro Manila on All Saints' Day? The traffic jam on roads leading to the burial grounds are unbelievable and with the population in one cities burning at the scene, the transportation system is easily overwhelmed making the problem a nightmare for any motorist.

If the Church can change in some, we should also be able to modify certain rituals to keep up with the times. This coming Tuesday, next year (by in the cemetery for another day. Choose a memorable date for this trip, a date that holds more personal significance for you and your departed. This may just hasten them in an honorable spirit of quiet dignity.

* * *

Last month, my sister Cayo Haven Manahan, daughter of Charlie and Pat Haven, lost her son, Kevin. At memorial services held in Moraga, California, Cayo remembered him with these lines:

I have no doubt that it takes a whole village to raise a child as I see so many good friends from our days as young parents—babysitting coop, playgroup, soccer and swim teams, boy scouts, and school.

And the past week, we realized how much we needed the whole village—all of you—to help us bid goodbye to our son. Your outpouring of love, support, prayers and generosity in sharing our sorrow has created a loving container for our grief. It will take a long while to fill the abyss in our hearts, but your love has already begun to fill this.

I remember Cayo's first tearful goodbye when he was about 18 months old as I left him with a baby sitter. He clung to me, wailing. Unfortunately, I had read about separation anxiety so I was able to override my own anxiety.

A goodbye I hardly remember was when he left for his first "overseas" journey—camp. So we said goodbye, I saw his train as he pulled out but tightly saw his eyes. He bounded the bus, dumbbell bunched and through the window, he waved nonchalantly, pulling his feet down even further. Now I wanted to wipe away his tears but I knew he would be OK. Those days later, a gaunt, thin, tanned son of the boy, grinning, came home again!

Through the years, the goodbyes became easier as we lived through the natural progression of nourishing our children.

I have always believed that once is not the only needed. I also believe that whatever love, light, protection (only) and prayers we send to those who have passed on helps them on their journey and were to help us as well.

The last time I saw Kevin, I was already in my car heading home from 6am Jose, when he called and asked me to send for him. It was very low but thank God, I did not send for him. It was very hard to say goodbye to my son, but I was clear he didn't want to talk. He only he said, "It's late, Mom, you better go." He hugged with our customary "love you." Two days later he was gone.

I cried myself to sleep every night, and would wake up crying. Then I decided to slowly allow our normal rhythm to return. Sometimes I'm overcome with tears, but I'm always glad. Then, I have two words: "I'm OK." That was all.

And that is all I need to know to begin to say goodbye.

Redefining 'pagkalalaki'

AT LARGE

Nina Jimenez-David

AS DEFINED BY POLICE OFFICIALS IN THE PEACE AND silence of the night: A man is drawn looking in on his wife's bed, finding that she is not there, and looking around for the source of the cries. He looks out the window and finds his neighbor across the way crushing a washing infant. The man calls out to his neighbor and hands him a bag of disposable diapers, saying, "Here, you need to help the baby sleep more soundly through the night."

There has been quite a number of commercials showing men taking an active part in child rearing...men playing with their children, cooking meals, changing diapers, feeding the children, doing what makes this commercial for "Huggies" the most notable is the way a young man's mannering male quite comically, calling on special attention to the fact that he is not like "other men" who "do not not their mothers—who run to the middle of the night to look after their babies. I especially liked the choice of words: "not their mothers." Not merely some men, but only "not" is that they looked not old to be "not" like "other men." Not merely "not" could not be brought into question. Exactly the type you would not expect to be closely in touch with their inner nurturers. And yes, if we go by the findings of a study made by the nursing concepts of "good mother" or more closely associated with "bad mother," it would seem that the creative minds behind the "Huggies" ad had missed this growing trend toward more nurturing Filipino males and the fact that there is not just his to merely be also for its resonance.

While masculinity in the Philippines is described primarily as the "ability to sire a child," "machismo" is "the ability to impregnate many women." Including individuals among the "and Others," finds that with the expectation of being able to sire children" raises the responsibility to take care of them."

* * *

ACCELAR and her team from the Sociology and Anthropology Research Group conducted one-on-one in-depth interviews with 44 un-scalped vasectomy clients and, from there, selected a few to participate in focus group discussions.

"The findings show that masculinity is defined as being a responsible husband and father who can provide for the basic needs of his family such as food, clothing and education," writes Aguilar. "Thus, a person's clever participation in family planning is basically due to economic reasons because of his responsibility to take care of his family's future."

Married men providing for his family's economic well-being, a "family in labor," they signify, citing other studies on Filipino masculinity, also as typically "quality time" with the wife and children. Likewise, "Likewise, a responsible husband is one a man among Lebanese men...and thus can be related in the way they serve considered in their childhood years, when they were trained to do simple household chores."

While these responses may seem dead as the primary motivation for their decision to undergo NSV, the men were greatly influenced by their wives, Aguilar reports. "Most accepted the support of their wives through a joint decision-making process and that the wife encouraged them or adverse attitudes reverberated by their male friends."

Health care providers are also important in the choice of clients and influence their thinking, reasoning potential clients about their fears and the possible side-effects of the procedure.

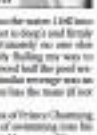
* * *

THE STUDY stands on their head traditional concepts about "male performance" on the lack of it in reproductive health, mainly by proving that if men are provided sufficient information and education, they would indeed be willing to "do their part."

One of Aguilar's recommendations, in fact, is for service providers and planners to report "the

Powered by Google

I do love thee, wench



REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

DISGUSTFUL...THERE'S SOMETHING ROMANTIC ABOUT sitting by the sea and hearing the waves crash. There's despair, excitement and a strange swirl of anticipation. I'm half expecting a pirate ship to moor itself on the shore with a black flag of death and crossbones tossing in the air. And I, a young lassie dress with hair screaming in the wind, would save down the stone steps, elegantly leap into the water, and swim into the well-

Powered by Google

mannered arms of my shipboard fiance (who, naturally, has a starring resemblance to Rob Lowe).

Alas, it cannot be. Saturday I am locked in the bathroom with a book around the poolside when my debate teammate decided to pick me up and throw me into the water. I fell into the deep end (in my world, even the feet to deep) and finally believed it was going to drown. Gilbert saved my one-dimensional life. I was reduced to gracelessly flailing my way to the pool edge (in that essay and swallowed half the pool water along the way. From my attempt at similar revenge was an abysmal failure, as my clothing resistance has the same ill for the body type of the fish.

Although I can normally wait on the idea of Prince Charming, sitting idling in the sun, the image of swimming into his waiting arms while clinging to an inflatable orange lifesaver is not by idea of happily-ever-after.

Reginald Perrin, who once claimed to have understood the innermost workings of the human mind, conceded one failure. He said that the one thing he couldn't explain was what it was that women really wanted. Maybe. As explains why Mel Gibson (Sith Marshall) in "What Women Want") is accused of being "totally and completely gay" when he suddenly finds himself with the power to read women's minds.

For the Freuds of today, (as the average Joe) just hoping to score a date), the world of literature has invested its answer to the eternal questions. They're called romance novels.

Yes, those romance novels: the garishly colored books whose male cover models seem to have ingested a little too much steroid (as evidenced by pectorals that rival even their female partners' generous chests). In the world of romantic bookdolls, whose credits (perhaps due to the liveliness of those same unsupported breasts) seem to be slowly coming apart at the seams. The publishers claim stories of "a passionate, turbulent love" with enough, unbelievable hero, and a heroine who "dares to defend his honor?"

When I was in high school, I devoured the Heroine: a "feisty wildcat" who is "as innocent as the heart of a perfect white rose." Her eyes are "the deepest purple of rippling sapphires," and beside the hero, a rakehell whose long dark hair "whips in the wind." Quite have Constantine Lord, Count, or Prince (kinds himself reluctantly compelled to protect our heroine from a) the hero himself, b) assailants or c) "unidentified outsiders by his orgasm blame." There is a lot of thrusting, parrying, lunging, craving and adoring, in between a few heartfelt sighs, and a couple of tears, angry scenes where the two realize that their love is as "impossible as the sun shooting the moon." The Heroine loses a lot of weight while she tries to pounds away in the 18th century equivalent of Fitness First.

Then, with a bang (literally) disaster strikes, and our tiny Heroine is swept into chaos, only to be saved by the Hero made half mad by desperation. It is only then that "all doubts are swept away by the ever-abiding tide of a love that was intended by the gods."

In the book The Bride of Conrad in "Surrender, My Angel": "I have hurled dragons and slain thousands of knights, for one word from you, my angel, has brought me to my knees. Marry me, and end this torment."

Romance novels are usually called formulaic—girl meets boy, girl and boy are attracted, girl and boy separate, some misunderstanding gets put, love conquers all. Some are more than the world, but more to the worse then finally live happily ever after.

I like to think a formula isn't necessarily a bad thing. After all, a sonnet isn't a sonnet unless it has 14 lines, but Jesus wouldn't be half without leather jackets, and a Monet doesn't have to have a woman with a parasol in a field of poppies. Formulas are fine—and when someone takes away my happiness after love's just say hell hath no fury as a woman cheated of a 1950 craft.

I'm not escapist—I put the saga to tell the world to stop and can get off. It happens to everyone. Despite just your daily crush. There's the boy in history, the girl who sits in front of down the basketball court life. I read romance novels—along with millions all over the world.

I finished reading romance novels on the sly—the first three were a gift from my grandfather. My dad confessed them before I got to look, and up to now I still have no idea why my grandfather bought "The Love of a Lady" and "Opposites in war" were appropriate reading material for a kid still watching "Indian Jones." (Unless he grateful, let's just say, they explained much of what I didn't get in grade school science class.

Because fiction generates more than $1.2 billion a year and has 41 million readers in America alone. The majority of all fiction sold is romantic fiction, scoring a whopping 34 percent of all paperbacks. There's a theory that there's a higher incidence of divorce among women who read romances—their standards are set impossibly high on every level.

The stolen of romance reading (who (hereinafter are fans of men in capes suits and metal bikinis) women who save the world like to say that think it is revenge for the bubble mind. The truth is that 41 percent of these romance lovers hold at least a bachelor's degree—so no, this motherhood is not of feminine fembot.

Interestingly, studies show that though women enjoy reading romance novels, they read about women. For the guy looking to read into a woman's head, a couple of hours on the couch with a romance novel and a love should be an easy solution. But to the unlucky few who would rather swallow the eye of a newt than be caught dead with "Slave to Passion," here's a one sentence summary of what women really want—as manifested by the New York Times's literary critics:

She runs to live happily ever after.

The formula may change their audience to audience. My generation has the shopping crazy, weight-obsessed, high-maintenance career women rampaging across the big city in search of Mr. Right (and failing even to find Mr. Right Now)—there's Bridget Jones and "Confessions of a Shopaholic." "Sex and the Single Girl" for the series.

I'm off to the pool. I figure I better learn how to swim—not knowing how to swim first severely limits my romantic fantasies. See on the cliff chance that Prince Charming is reading this, here's to hoping he learns the new alone and shows up on a motorcycle, a helicopter, or even the "Red" jeep's it!

* * *

Send comments to pat.evangelista@gmail.com.

Formal institutions and people power

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

IN A DEMOCRACY, IT IS NATURAL FOR THE public to seek to be freed of the burden of having to take direct action. We elect people to serve as our government. Yet, on two occasions in the recent past, under the spell of a diffused social movement, Filipinos found themselves taking the whole system into their own hands to re-establish their government. In retrospect, the experience left bewildered—but wonderful—they are now there to point out into the streets again.

Every radical is gripped by romantic visions of this sort but, as our experience shows, the politics of crisis can be very high. Having achieved the morally impossible in 1986—the peaceful ouster of a tyrannical regime—Filipinos did not hesitate to repeat the feat in 2001. In both occasions, although evidence was avoided, the public welcomed the intervention of the armed forces, something that should not have happened in a functioning democracy.

In many ways, we are haunted by the ghosts of this exercise of popular sovereignty. That is probably why we have an ambivalent relationship to people power—we celebrate its essence, parts promise, but we fear its dark irrational side. It is a revolt against tyranny, but it can also be exploited in the service of reactionary empires. The question is: Can it be institutionalized?

Under our system, when government fails to perform its work, people can run to the Supreme Court to interpret the law and to correct errors in its application. In our current situation, for instance, there are things the Supreme Court can do to address the challenge to the constitutional and in the rule of law. First, it can rule decisively on the question of whether the manner in which the House of Representatives disposed of the three impeachment complaints against Chief Hilario Davide Jr. was in accordance with a rational understanding of the law. Then, the pending petition before the Court that raises the question

Second, the Court can rule immediately on the constitutionality of Executive Order 464 which bars government officials and police and military officers from appearing in congressional hearings without prior permission from the President. Third, the Court can, once and for all, rule on the meaning of the "no person" in Article VII, and the constitutionality of Batas Pambansa 880 or the Public Assembly Law, which is cited as its basis.

Fourth, as the Presidential Electoral Tribunal, the Court can attend with dispatch to the election protest of vice president Noli Castillo. Lorenzo Tañada III, the lawyer of the protestant, has said that the resolution of the protest may not in any way question about the credibility of the 2004 presidential election—questions which were left unanswered when the protest of presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. was dismissed after his untimely death.

Fifth, the Court can rule on whether the quick and forthright opinion from the Court can defuse the tension that is tearing the nation apart. For example, can attempted proceedings be exhausted or evidence in proceedings where public interest of the utmost importance is involved?

In the past, the Supreme Court did not hesitate to wade politically charged waters. In January 2001, while Erap Estrada was still in office, the Court declared the seat of office of the president to Vice President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was in accordance with a rational understanding of the law. Then, the pending petition before the Court that raises the question

Powered by Google

sustained the legality of prosecuting former President Joseph Estrada for plunder on the ground that, being a "constitutional office" and not a presidency, he could no longer invoke immunity from criminal prosecution.

But as crucial moments in our history, the Court did also allow itself to be overtaken by political events. After Marcos declared martial law, it failed to act on the petition questioning whether the 1973 Constitution was ratified. That constitution sanctioned the existence of a continuing state of emergency and granted Marcos law-making powers. Unable to assert its independence, the Court became an unwitting tool of the dictatorship. As expected, after Marcos was overthrown, no sanction against the Court's complicity when the Aquino government scrapped the Marcos constitution.

What the rebuilding of institutions, like Congress and the judiciary, means essentially is the restoration of their status as credible sites of reasoned deliberation. Unfortunately, this has not been easy. The flawed electoral process has convinced so many politicians who do not have the slightest idea about governance. The persistence of the culture of patronage has produced appointments to the judiciary that cannot be described as anything but mediocre.

It is ironic that the Arroyo administration denounces the Citizens' Congress for "truth and accountability as a "kangaroo court" with no legitimacy. Designed to gather information and hear viewpoints on legislative issues that are formal and unconvincing, but it is also the only way possible way the CCEA can perform a crucial function in the political self-battalion of our society. It is people power by other means—hold not in the streets, where insanity runs can be drowned, but in a university where reason can be heard.

Comments to public.Post@gmail.com

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to ...
Editor Jaime F. Bautista Jr.

A lost generation across Asia's war zones

IN SPOTS OF ASIA, CONFLICT AND WARFARE HAVE TAKEN THE LIVES OF many—young and old, rich and poor. And children. Victims without a voice, they are being forced or given up quickly. Children continue to be exploited, whether through recruitment or forced recruitment, for causes they care not comprehend.

Certain Asian countries are losing on many generations. The Asia News Network (ANN), a group of 12 national English language dailies in Asia, looks at them in this special series.

Featured here are a story of children from the Karen state in Burma who crossed a dense jungle in search of a better education in northern Thailand, and a story of Filipino children joining armed groups to seek justice.

Talk of the Town will run two other stories—one on teenagers in Sri Lanka who were missing, and one on children charged with treason in Aceh, Indonesia.

ANN was organized in 1999 to provide avenues for cooperation and to optimize coverage of major news events in the region.

Its members are The Daily Star - Bangladesh; China Daily - China; The Statesman - India; The Jakarta Post - Indonesia; Daily Yomiuri and Yomiuri Shimbun - Japan; Sin Chew Daily - Malaysia; The Star - Malaysia; Philippine Daily Inquirer - Philippines

(The Straits Times - Singapore; The Korea Herald - South Korea; The Island - Sri Lanka; The Nation - Thailand; and Viet Nam News - Vietnam.)

Karenni children's long trek for education

By Top Lih Hsay
Allan Maw Reserve

MAE HONG SON, THAILAND—About 20 children from the Karenni refugee camp in Ban Mai Nai Soi have journeyed to the dense jungle, hoping to make it to Thailand.

But will they survive? Merely the possibility of such is exhilarating.

The youngest in the group was a 10-year-old girl who lost a leg when she stepped on a landmine during flight.

The children survived on roots, bamboo shoots and river water. Their bodies ran serious gashes, inflicted on their bleeding, cuts by the bushes they had to push through.

They pressed, still in flurries, over their noses, admittedly hoping for the best while knowing they may never see their children again. It never ceases to amaze the children's parents that the "terrible" Thailand is so much better than the shelter refugees have where in Thailand just like "terrible" Burma.

Back and with them in their Thailand shanties lived quite a few of refugees living in the hut, or memories of their long lost, in the south of Thailand on the Thai-Burmese border.

Refugee camps

In this particular camp, there are about 9,000 Karenni refugees, 2,500 of them children.

These days, there's also the issue of the boarding house for these children. A board painted white is crudely signboard with a star to it to sign it is painted on the top of a wooden hall in the Mae Hong Son camp compound, signifying hope, perseverance and new beginnings.

There are 61 children in the boarding house, 29 of them girls. The oldest child is 19 years old (neither belonged to 19).

Their common tasks to attend a through up and weekly, and two mandatory daily meetings. Their other tasks include the public toilets, monthly and slippery causing accidental deaths.

There is not enough food to go around and people drinking is scarce, especially the dry season. The children are fed rice and fish, but additional are added portions for "The Many Mouths-Of-Boarding-Houses" and through an emergency.

The children get into clothes, with cans a year, and sometimes they have to share. Shirts in bunk are understandable given the lack of privacy and personal space. Both sexes, anyway.

The 29 girls and their two adult chaperones, Saw Ka Ler Eh Blut, was also assigned to the care.

The other youngsters from the village of Bankhakaman, also in Ban Mai Nai Soi, are between 12 and 17 years old. Until mid-13-year-old Kindy, which was their school set up guides for this old shelter. Shower and toilet facilities are also shared and broken up.

There used to be happened during sessions, also separated in the provision of boarding and the in April following a clash between government troops and resistance rebels.

Seeking justice

Ashad Conflict has claimed several roads of the past was decades in the Philippine Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, displacing hundreds of thousands and leaving thousands dead. Muslim movements and hostile groups cannot be into 1996, relatively isolated, Muslim separatist movement, as well as guerrilla the Abu Sayyaf Group.

Children have been heavily traumatized during military operations as they were not spared from torture or the bombs of the military.

The clashes between the military and rebel groups also left thousands of orphans in an already impoverished area. And for many of the children, among the rebellion has become one way to seek justice.

The armed movement organization Colombia (abducted) Nasir (Saffar) (left). El Nido Rescuers (volunteers) to refugee camps. A three-killed during military operations. If those displaced and wounded in skirmishes. El Nido have arrested, tortured and detained. El those who left this a result of the conflicts, and Nido Rescuers (volunteers) to inspect at their families and communities.

Almost, even children as young as nine years old, have been exposed to the fighting by the commanders of the three factions: Lif-soldier-front and the Abu Sayyaf.

The Philippine Military said in 2002 that there were around 6,000 armed in these groups.

At the Office of Health Cotabato, where there are many wounded children are delivered. The executive Nasir Adamo Salamanca From MILF) rebels and government troops, resulting and children are also constantly driven to the medical facilities.

But most of them who are old enough have joined or have been recruited to fighters of the MILF.

While studies reveal that poverty and governmental neglect are the main reasons for the rebellion, some Muslim separatist groups, another factor is family background.

Datuk Wahi Ibrahim, the Sabah Foreign Minister, "Children the children themselves or their parents or near them to the MILF."

"This has long members of the revolutionary organization for they are not combatants. Child combatants are not allowed. The rule does not involved in activities related to armed encounter with the military," Ibrahim said.

Ibrahim, however, admitted that the training center is not allowed due to its tolerance standards.

The said her challenges were preserving the "The Many Mouths" entering the program, and the people to implement the program, and relationship refugees to communities in Thai.

However, the greatest was those learning centers were not being established to meet refugee children's learning interventions.

"We can help them get the international education they are originally. We've heard that the Thailand is considering them to some do not good students," Ibrahim said.

Glimmer

While civilian refugee communities have gained their hopes on the Ministry of Peace, there's now policy on educating non-Muslim children, some are unanswered to only others are people. We hoped can make it to get schooling the and problems of addressing refugee children in further their studies.

ABOUT 40 to 50 Burmese children are expected to enter the boarding house every year, although it is already fully occupied.

Carter the number how mothers could to allow to give to the children—large or small on the many people when there are no proper roads. The spoiled living conditions in these camps are also another point to consider.

While their classes in the Thai education system for refugee children may take years to reach 10 grade, Mrs Other, 21, and Saw Mila, 24, said they just wanted to improve their command of English to get jobs. "The children's stories have been changed to protect their identity.)

Former Burmese rebel soldiers who are now refugees in Thailand, and Saw Ka Ler Eh Blut, to the Karenni refugee camps, the two assigned to escape from the Burmese military while on reconnaissance about eight months ago.

Nor will the MILF have any influence on refugees as he would not accept any support himself.

Mrs's dream is to be reunited in a free country, where indeed that his ambition was, he said students, currently, the refugee question. "I want to be a doctor. I want to save money. It's hard to forward a high position."

Minors fighting for the NPA and MILF

By Rolando B. Pinlac
PN Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—ONE MUSLIM MOTHER, nine-year-old Jessica and 17-year-old Cesar were in their way to gather palm leaves with their parents and neighbors when artillery shells closed up upon them.

As passengers, they were forced to lay shelter, and when the shelling stopped, they ran to their homes.

"They will grow up to become New People's Army (NPA) rebels anyway," the soldiers said.

Bombs fell on their village of Arakan Valley—which was plagued by rebellion—but no one was injured by the bombardment.

For to this day, Jessica and Cesar are still traumatized by the incident.

Twelve-year-old Jay, a 17-year-old brother, Claude Dolores of San Agustin, was also subjected to the fate.

Two other teenagers from the village of Bankhakaman, also in San Agustin, were 17-year-old Jessica Tindi and 13-year-old Kindy Tindi, were forced to set up guards for five days. Shower and toilet facilities are also shared and broken up.

These incidents happened during sessions, also separated in the provision of boarding and the in April following a clash between government troops and resistance rebels.

Seeking justice

Ashad Conflict has claimed several roads of the past was decades in the Philippine Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, displacing hundreds of thousands and leaving thousands dead. Muslim movements and hostile groups cannot be into 1996, relatively isolated, Muslim separatist movement, as well as guerrilla the Abu Sayyaf Group.

Children have been heavily traumatized during military operations as they were not spared from torture or the bombs of the military.

The clashes between the military and rebel groups also left thousands of orphans in an already impoverished area. And for many of the children, among the rebellion has become one way to seek justice.

The armed movement organization Colombia (abducted) Nasir (Saffar) (left). El Nido Rescuers (volunteers) to refugee camps. A three-killed during military operations. If those displaced and wounded in skirmishes. El Nido have arrested, tortured and detained. El those who left this a result of the conflicts, and Nido Rescuers (volunteers) to inspect at their families and communities.

Almost, even children as young as nine years old, have been exposed to the fighting by the commanders of the three factions: Lif-soldier-front and the Abu Sayyaf.

The Philippine Military said in 2002 that there were around 6,000 armed in these groups.

PARENTS with their children desperately looked for shelter on May 31, 2000 as clashes between the military and the MILF intensified in Mindanao.

At the Office of Health Cotabato, where there are many wounded children are delivered. The executive Nasir Adamo Salamanca From MILF) rebels and government troops, resulting and children are also constantly driven to the medical facilities.

But most of them who are old enough have joined or have been recruited to fighters of the MILF.

The MILF estimated in 2004 that there are 15- to 16-year-old fighters. Some of them were around 9,000 armed in these groups.

At the Office of Health Cotabato, where there are many wounded children are delivered. The executive Nasir Adamo Salamanca From MILF) rebels and government troops, resulting and children are also constantly driven to the medical facilities.

But most of them who are old enough have joined or have been recruited to fighters of the MILF.

The MILF estimated in 2004 that there are 15- to 16-year-old fighters. Some of them were around 9,000 armed in these groups.

Abducted

Some are reportedly abducted and forced to enlist.

The other phenomenon is that these children have been badly poor, organized from their families, displaced from their homes, living in refugee camps. Some of the children are forced to be in the frontline, and that the reason rebel forces use at least a "couple of dozens" of child soldiers.

A United Nation of Labor and Employment report in 2003 said children ordinarily cannot be under the age of 15 years old, but they are forced by the "the ill and exploitation" to taking part, or were abducted to pay pressure or propaganda

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

MILF camps set off S. Cotabato alarm

KORONADAL CITY—SOUTH COTABATO OFFICIALS led by Gov. Daisy Avance-Fuentes expressed alarm over new camps allegedly being set up by the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in the Roxas Mountain Range in Tapi town.

Fuentes asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to step in and stop the building of new MILF camps.

She said conditions set by the ongoing peace talks between the government and the MILF prohibit the guerrillas from setting up new camps anywhere.

She said the MILF was also recruiting new members for only among Muslims, but also among Christians and Lumads (tribes).

She said she wrote to Ivdp to the panel monitoring the ceasefire between the government and MILF.

Geoffrey Hachero, PDI #For Bachero

MAYOR HAZEDOAN welcomes the crew of the Rainbow Warrior, the flagship of Greenpeace.

Puerto mayor opens door wide for Greenpeace

PUERTO PRINCESA MAYOR EDWARD HAGEDORN, veteran environment advocate, welcomed the crew of The Rainbow Warrior, the flagship of international environmental group Greenpeace, when it docked at Puerto Princesa City to campaign for the use of cleaner energy sources.

Hagedorn welcomed the ship's crew, headed by Capt. Daniel Simsek. With him were other city government officials, members of local nongovernment organizations, Von Hernandez, head of Greenpeace Southeast Asia, Joel Concepcion, regional energy campaigner Francis de la Cruz, event coordinator and Almira Dumpalla of Greenpeace.

"The people of Puerto Princesa based on a national survey take pride in themselves as a people with the highest environmental consciousness in the country. The residents of this city are aware that what causes global warming and ozone depletion are the illegal logging, indiscriminate, irresponsible mining, and other destructive activities that dominate our forests; carbon dioxide emissions caused by factories, power plants and vehicles and improper solid waste management," Hagedorn said in a statement.

Puerto Princesa City is the country's first Hall of Fame awardee in the annual search for the cleanest and greenest local government units.

Hagedorn said the city maintained its environmental record by banning logging and mining, making eco-planning part of city programs, establishing tree nurseries, protecting and rehabilitating its forests with an increased forest cover of 12,000 hectares, carrying out a scheme to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by solid-free, and adopting an economic development plan anchored on ecotourism.

The mayor said the city has also started using solar energy in the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park and its clinics.

He said the city would soon be totally reliant on electricity powered by renewable sources like solar, wind and natural gas.

Bayan asks GMA to sack Palparan

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—THE BAGONG Alyansang Makabayan on Saturday has called on military officials to relieve Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan Jr. to ensure an impartial investigation of his two soldiers tagged as suspects in the murder of labor leader Ricardo Ramos.

"A right-thinking and decent military general would step aside and let the process take its full course. That's what we expect of him to do," said Renato Mabasa, Bayan Central Luzon chair.

Palparan said Thursday that he, as Army's, as commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, should "save morale and prestige" in relieving Palparan, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, since the general was implicated in Ramos' murder.

Police investigators named Pfc. Jessie Corpuz (Cadet in Hacienda Luisita, one bit by one bullet from an M-14 rifle near his house in Barangay Maquabebas in Tarlac City on Oct. 22.

Palparan, however, said he has no strong reason to yield to Bayan's demand.

Ramos was shot through his mobile phone from Cagayan de Oro City said the investigation by the Philippine National Police on his top list. Frederick de la Cruz and Nemesio Carrillo Jr. has hardly started.

The police's Task Force Ramos, working closely on the circumstances of five witnesses, said Palparan is covering the two soldiers by "pretending to see their side."

"These are my men, yes, but the testimony did not necessarily say they were the ones who killed Ramos," Palparan said.

He said he would not stand in the way of the investigation. "I will allow the police to proceed with the case. I will make available to them my soldiers to get the information they want," he added.

95 years.
Not a single absence.

As the first Filipino life insurance company, we've been witness to how hard you've labored for your money. That's why we devote every working day to nurturing the fruits of your labor. At Insular Life, no war nor crisis could keep us from ensuring that all your claims -- be it death, maturity or disability -- are paid promptly. For 95 years, we've been honoring every contract we make. At the end of each day, it feels good to know that we have committed -- more than our presence -- our utmost care for every contract you have entrusted us with.

SUPER BRAND 2005 Gold
Winner in the Insurance Category
for quality, value and
trustworthiness

INSURAL LIFE True to you.

INQUIRER Mindanao

E-mail: ng_desk@inquirer.net.ph
Edna Jane Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Strongest man now feels like junk

By Jaime S. Alipala
PDI Mindanao Bureau

HE WAS SOUTHEAST ASIA'S STRONGEST man. Now, traces of that title are barely visible in retired Lt. Jaime Sebastian, of the Philippine Air Force, who could hardly walk or talk.

He even has difficulties in remembering previous past.

"We had a ride the last year, 40 or the similar, everything is lost... two times, his job, his family and even his self-confidence," says Rhina Villanueva, Jaime's younger sister.

Half of Jaime's body is paralyzed. He had an mild strokes in December and December last year. In his December, he had to other stroke that almost cost his life.

Lifting weights

In 1969, the 23-year old Jaime, who already won division of winning a gold medal, left home and slept in various gyms to lift weights.

Three years later, he tried his luck in the national open competition in Baguio City and became the country's strongest man in the super weight category. He held that title for two decades (1975 to 1995).

"Hindi n ako na known dun," he possibly says.

He was then managed by the late Zamboanguena weight lifter, Fabian Rocco and supervised by the late Filipino Weight Lifting Association President Bjake Devanes.

In between weights, Jaime managed to finish secondary education in Zamboanga City High School and took some courses at the Zamboanga Servan Evangelio College. He graduated in Zamboanguena and at the University of the East in Manila in 1976.

In 1979, 26-year-old Jaime joined the IRA grants and became Southeast Asia's strongest man.

No record broke

"My son broke my record until the last Vietnam SEA games where an Indonesian took my title," he said.

He also joined the Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles but was only placed 19th.

"Ako na dyan nanood sa Western world Olympic championship pag-uwi ko sa Silvanus world," he said.

Apart-opting for his elected speech, Jaime said: "It was all fame, glamour, power, women, money and more. I was so naive, yawed with all of those that I almost forgot I have my family and my God."

Aside from the cash prize, trophies and medals, Jaime was also promoted to a higher rank each time he brought home the gold.

"I was also in a Johnson and Johnson commercial—the powder on my shaved while posing in the powder on my body," Jaime said.

While in the Philippine Air Force, Jaime was also coach of weight lifting Philippine team members Alvin delos Santos, Arnel Ishikuri and Antonio Agustin...all of them from Tiaong, Quezon.

Junked and abandoned

But Jaime ended up like an empty bottle: pointless once.

When Jaime had his last stroke at the Philippine Sports Commission office in Greenhills, he never thought he will be dismissed in wheelchair.

SOUTHEAST. Rizal's strongest man ever, retired Lt. Jaime Sebastian is fond of ride a bicycle and it could handy walk or walk. LEA CRUZ

"Gumon pala yung mga iyon, kapag kaya at may cibo, pagamitin na nung pagamitin sa mga kaibigan ng kanilang. Kapag wala na ng cibo, pati mahe ng pantalon mo hahiramin na, tatawagan ka lang sa junk shop. O realized (that) I was just like a machine, if you were new and functioning, you will be used to bring home to the owners. But if you are not useful anymore, even your family would treat you differently, it's as if you are I'd for the junk shop already," Jaime said in his bind to hold back his tears.

Now his wife and children in Laguna abandoned him.

"Siguro gala talaga sa akin ang (love, Ayan ako nagkaganon (Dad may just be really angry with me dad's wife this happened)," he said.

Abraham, Jaime's brother, said his brother's wife personally turned him over to their care for Jaime.

"What pained us more was not even a single dad, a photo or an ID was left to my brother. They refused to return my brother's personal belongings—even his medals or clothes," Abraham said.

Jaime's brothers provided him shirts, short pants and occasional medicines.

"But for how long? We do not know. We are already old, and no latter also our own families to support," Abraham said, himself a soldier.

Help

Now, Jaime, formerly the strongest man in Southeast Asia, needs help.

"I want to walk like my other normal people. This time I will make it right," he said.

Mayor Jun Banaag had asked help from local officials. "Not nothing, just a word of support, that's all."

"It's a pity other young Jaime and time to our country. How he is paralyzed, everyone forgets him," Mayor lamented.

City Councilor Miriam Dolipa said the city council had many records passed a resolution recommending to the city government through Mayor Celso Lobregat to extend financial assistance to Jaime.

"But the mayor did not pay attention to the resolution. It just fell on Lobregat's deaf ears," Dolipa said.

"We must not forget that these champion have brought our just home to our city but to the entire country. How can we encourage young players to do their best and excel when we don't even support the old and elderly old (one time) pains," the councilor added.

(Those who want to extend help to Jaime may call phone No. 09190282570)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday
SPORTS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2004

Lim deserves day in court–lawyer

THE LAWYER REPRESENTING BASKETBALL free-agent of the Philippine women's national Grebner Lim yesterday said that his client, like anyone else, deserves his day in court.

Lawyer Manuel B. Dingcong said in his appeal to Mahakiang that Lim must be accorded due process and have to be presumed innocent until proven otherwise in a proper court.

"Grebner Lim deserves her day in court to prove his innocence, Dingcong said, adding that her client is being tried by publicity without the benefit of a fair and impartial court trial.

Mahakiang panned last Tuesday Lim's appeal to set aside the deportation order earlier issued by the BI. Lim has 15 days to appeal the decision before a warrant for her arrest is issued by the BI.

LIM

"Grebner is charged of said deportation case on an independent finding of objective ruling that he is an alien," Dingcong said in his appeal. "Since the liberty of Grebner is involved here, the constitutional guarantee of due process of law demands that his alleged citizenship should first be determined in judicial proceedings."

Dingcong reminded Mahakiang and the BI that in the absence of proof in the contrary, "every man is considered as presumed to be a citizen of the country in which he resides.

"The burden to prove that Grebner is not a Filipino is with the BI and has not yet been conclusively established by a competent court," Dingcong said.

For his part, Lim contended that his deportation case has been a result of a vicious power play by high-ranking sports officials.

"They resorted to this (coercing his case with the BI) when they sensed that I don't want to cooperate with them in the formation of a new basketball body. "At first, one sports luminary promised to help me with my BI dilemma if I would accede to their wishes. But the following day, the same emissary told me that my support was no longer needed and that they are pushing through with their plan of having me deported."

Manila bets overwhelm MYG rivals

By Marc Anthony Reyes

AGGRAVATE CHEMISTRY UNDER THE SUBSOIL of its gold medal haul, Manila picked up more victories in swimming at the World Wheelchair and Amputee Games in Athens.

Teenage sensations Tessa Akasanon and April Herrera both claimed their fourth gold medal in swimming to highlight Manila's dominance of the one-week competition among the top 17 and under athletes from 20 local government units.

Manila won 10 gold medals in swimming alone yesterday to boost its golden collection to 57 on top of 44 silver and 39 bronze medals.

Gaguan Province joined up four gold rush as athletes and swimming for a second straight gold-silver-bronze count of 28-45-14. Mandaluyong was third at 12-8-10 followed by Quezon City and Dasmariñas, with medal tallies of 11-13-13 and 10-13-9 tallies, respectively.

Manila is expected to cap its swimming campaign with another medal splurge in Wednesday's schedule scheduled today.

Akasanon, 16, triumphed in the girls' 50-277G meter butterfly and 100m breaststroke. The double-edge performance from La Salle earlier took the 50m breast and 50m backstroke last Friday.

Herrera, 17, reigned supreme in the girls' 15-17 200m free and returned to Manila's 400m freestyle relay win.

Accidental engineering freshman of UST, Herrera won the 100m butterfly and 400m free last Friday.

Laguna also had its share of medals as Calamba swimmers Angel Rabadon and Jasmine Chavez, who captured three and two golds, respectively.

Rabadon seized the girls' 12-under 50m and the 200m golds to go unbeaten streaky dash victory last Friday. Rabadon timed 7.0 seconds in the half-century dash, while clocking 29 seconds flat in the 200m, 0.6 seconds off PSA issues to end great wins Tyler Oldwyn.

Chavez, the reigning Palaro champ, snatched the girls' 14-17 200m plum with a 27.2 time. She actually placed second to guest PE Jan country Kenia Aprilan (26.4 seconds) but was adjudged the winner. She won the 100m dash gold for other day.

Other Manila winners were Ingrid Rosero in the girls' 10-under 200m free and Ram Reimes in the boys' 10-under 200m free.

Scoring victories for Quezon City in athletics were Melinda Bingcang (girls' 13-15 1,200m), Hary Jan Milano (girls' 16-17 discus throw) and Ralph Anthony Servidad (boys' 13-15 1,500m).

The event is presented by Globe Telecoms and sponsored by Pepsi, San Miguel Corp., 8Q, Super Ferry, Mile, Unilever, Skoods, Red Bull, Load Bank, Iconic Manila, Inkmaster and Courage Runners.

Football honcho calls for support

JOHNNY ROMUALDEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE Philippine Football Federation (PFF), is requesting football fans and enthusiasts to wear the colors of the National Women every match day of FIFA Games football beginning Nov. 20 in Rizal (20) Island and the 23rd in Markham City (women).

ROMUALDEZ

Romualdez cited the positive effects of people support in South Korea and Japan when both countries co-hosted World Cup 2002. He added, "wearing the team colors, flag-waving, and even face painting can bode dyeing to the colors of the National team give psychological rewards to the contents who finished first Dole every in World Cup competition. South Korea placed 4th while Japan made it to the top 16.

More than 500,000 South Koreans in red shirts and green jerseys jammed onto the streets of Seoul to welcome their country's goal and victory against Poland. In Japan, 91,000 roaring blue-clad fans overwhelmed the stadium as the Japanese opening game against Belgium. The trend to wear their national team's colors went all the way to the final games of the competition.

Romualdez believes the fans to accord in Red-color and Blue-Jean will help greatly in propelling both RP teams to the medal round. Dominika Gavanzuk, PFF acting Secretary said that the Philippine will wear their blue and Gamay for Home opening day's matches.

Ed Thomas, PFF promotion and publicity man added that the PFF is coordinating with the provincial football associations of both cities to coincide with passing parade support to the squads.

The Region Occidental Football Association (ROFA) is under the leadership of Representative Charlie Cojuangco while the Markham City Football Association (MCFA) has Mayor Maudie C. Peralta as its head.

Making music in cemetery, where Rey Valera found his niche

AT A LION POINT outside, Rey Valera searches styrofoam-lined pauses and inspiration and composed some of his answers late among the decomposing, or so speak, in a cemetery in Mira Loma in Sheboygan.

Transcription of the page continues:

"You know how it is when you lose someone, diba. It's hard to find your private space. In his case, he die what I wanted to do, I want to be cemetery," he recalled, adding:

"There's no radio or TV to distract you. There, you can daydream and have deep thoughts! Sinabi ko pa nga [while living]: How come we only get to appreciate American songs and Filipino [pop] songs [of that period] that were mostly love-life [songs]?"

Long hair, ball-bottoms

Valera now flaunts a long-haired mullet-wig that he had in bottom jeans, and somewhere at an amateur rock band he was called, not surprisingly, Elusive Hair.

He fondly remembered being one of those for Eastern University students whose wife would chase without success down Recto Avenue in Manila's University Belt—not to break up a fistfight but to give them the prescribed haircut of good citizenship under the dictator Ferdinand Marcos' New Society.

But the defiant cadences of rock music was not what the iPhone whispered to him when Valera re-found his voice.

After three and almost daily months from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., he would be out of his aunt's house and somewhere in the cemetery composing "Superstar" and other easy-playing, mellow tunes.

The tunes would finally earn him some fame from the recording company Alicia, both as a songwriter and a vocalist.

He wasn't, how fantastically the videos changed from where I sat," he recalled, provoking a glimpse of those possible pasts) that produced such hits as "Always Na...", "Nasaktan Ba," "Maging Tayo Ba Ako...," "Babae Akoon ng Pag-ibigin Ko," "Kumusta Ka," "Pag-ibig na Ito" and "Sorry, Pero Di Ko."

Mr. DJ'

It was also during those years that he got an employment from Nino as "writer-researcher for this girl, a daughter of a mayor whose I hardly knew back then."

Realizing that the singer was too young for a serious romantic piece, yet excited for a summery tune, Valera wrote "Mr. DJ" for Sharon Cuneta, she would be "inspired" of Philippine show biz.

But and also his other songs, he composed "Mr. DJ," not sensing the results, but during a leisurely ride from Hamersmith to Greenwich in the yesteryears in Dalmore.

Valera went on to write more hits after leaving the house by the cemetery to devote to Hotel. Those songs sung by a family of his own, he moved to another village to be town.

Asked if he had ever nominated the possibility that some secrets of ghostly presence in the cemetery somehow "guided" him in his songwriting, Valera just smiled.

"The ghosts I don't know! Just their aura in the land that haunt you from your past, the one that I might tell Lander the weight of history (a pabiro), or that my children would suffer

Dying cheap . . .

Transcription of the page continues:

Different feet and six times thicker than the bone's top and bottom. Plastic bundles to keep everything flush complete the casket.

With the product. Too were the sort of dying shopping thoroughly as modern risky up a six-storied flat of basis of service units.

Biodegradable

Why control is a practical, inexpensive and it fits the current trend of cremation, he says. It is also two-broadly because those months after burial, the casket turns to dust.

For a few thousand pesos more, felt or infused exported fabric is meticulously glued to the metal's outer exterior. Color range from ecrue to bright, including roses, ochre, green, dark blue, olive yellow and violet.

Tara Philippine-made cabinets are water-resistant and just as sturdy as the ones imported from the US.

Coffin vs casket

He went to Taiwan to learn the technology and studied the market response to similar products in Thailand, Malaysia and India. He learned everything from seam-lo...like learning the difference between a casket and coffin.

"A coffin has a flat top," Tan, a thanksgiving graduating gentleman, says. "A casket has an elevated cover."

But even Filipinos dislike coffins. This former name a bit too late and killed his first commercial series coffins.

"Filipinos like form with shape," Tan says, gesturing with his hands to draw the sexpot. At his He adjusted his product. Now he has a number.

Lessons from the dead

The corrugated fiberboard caskets are displayed at the Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe, Makati City, and at Funeraria Paz on Aurora Ave., Quezon City. Models are prominently turned to face outside because of their customizable cost.

Cremation is also becoming better used in the economy, Tan says. In Thailand, the dead are cremated for free. The government donates crematoriums to temples. The crematoriums are then maintained with donations. In China, Taiwan and India, it is common practice to cremate the dead.

And few years, he says, cremation will become a completely acceptable practice in the country, helped along, hopefully, by his new product.

Cremation will become a cheaper option because furnaces are constantly improving, needing less gasses to be run, Tan says. A corrugated fiberboard casket needs less power to burn than a wooden casket.

Tan's dream is that every family in the country will be stocking up the cost of memorial plots, he adds.

A certain relief is a practical and more dignified option for the dead because it goes straight into the furnace, at present, the practice is to take the body out of the casket as families can't place it on a narrow tray and roll it into the furnace. The same conditioned casket is then dumped to a charitable or pedestrian that needed.

Body count

A cheap casket is not only easy on the pocket, it is also light in the hand, Tan says. It weighs only 30 kilos, about half a wooden casket's 50 kilos.

But due to the heavy wood's weight, casket pillar body repair approximately 200 kilos!...pallbearers are reminded to lift the casket from the bottom.

His aim is for an initial harvest of 1,000 units a month, including the low-end ones whose about a third of the caskets are the middle- to high-end versions of the fabric-covered caskets with increasing depth from five.

According to Tan, 750,000 deaths occur in the country every year, which translates to 60,000 deaths' demand, requiring caskets a month. A mere 10 percent of that number means a demand for 6,000 corrugated cardboard caskets a month.

For Tan, a deal's not over on death.

Advertisers told: If it's funny . . .

From page A1

videos or possible opportunities to out of tight fists, for only of getting even with stronger forces or of conveying the hard, competitive truth, according to a study that gave Filipino humor economic roots.

Designed to give local advertisers more clout in the Filipino psyche, the study was based on inputs from leading brains in the ad industry, the academe and, of course, interviews with—consumers of this Individuals, Joey de Leon, Michael V and Jun Sabayton.

The Filipino Everyman has many "uses for humor" apart from when he gets in the audience to jog down or the movies, said Jim Ortega, head of a branding strategy outfit who presented the findings last Friday in Makati City.

Ortega presented these insights to encourage colleagues in the ad industry to go go on tickling the Filipino funny bone. "If it's funny we're in business," he said. "The shortest distance between your brand and the consumer is humor."

But he cautioned against nothing into this comedy genre, saying that zero materials might only backfire if they "don't respect the intelligence of the Filipino," who are now wary of slapstick and other tired "formulas."

Ortega cheats Brandkat, the outfit that conducted the study which ripped up to 30 comedy "practitioners" made up of performers, writers and comedy directors, as well as the audiences of typical consumers, interviewers and TV viewers. His presentation highlighted the 7th anniversary-cocktail program of the BRAND Awareness Omega ad agency, of which Ortega is also vice chair.

It's his staying mechanism, especially in these hard times, "it matters from the impact of daily events," Ortega said. When the average citizen goes home from work and turns on the TV he needs "no more heavy stuff." All he asks is "to humor me."

This easy laugh's explains why Filipinos, with 40 percent of the population considered to be living below the poverty line, still emerged as the third happiest nation in Asia in a survey featured in Time magazine, he said.

Humor as glue

Humor also serves to the "organic" with which the Filipino closes relationship goodwill with as many followers as possible.

And, by carrying the trade means economics.

Consider the neighbor who borrows the stethoscope so that the latter will allow some purchases on credit, or the street bum who cracks jokes to a friend who would probably ignore others lines many free money.

And when there's tension in a group—whether at work or it's in the sex conversation—there will always be the jester who will "lubricate tight situations" with a well-timed intruder, Ortega said.

Humor is the Filipinos' "social glue," the reason they tend to break into smiles even in grave situations and would rather avoid conflict or confrontation. Such traits leave foreigners "baffled," he said.

Breaking the ice

It's also their easiest way to establish rapport with strangers.

In a baptism reception, for example, where almost always the majority of the guests don't know each other the most would initiate conversation about their spouse or another image or home.

But since time would be generally understood as the cost for face-saving, ego-needs, rigmarole like who does the cooking, before the info from subsequent from the breaker's.

"Somehow the bonding among the non-stars from there," Ortega said.

9-11 and 4-11

And since a joke is often "a half truth," poking fun at someone is from the "Great Center for Inquiry's" delicate subjects, during the videos, or "humanizing the gods," from a role...relying the use.

For example, someone would ask: "Is our new supervisor easy on?"

Replies employees could answer: "Oh, no, absolutely! He's a good dancer."

A text joke anonymously making the rounds goes: "If the US had 9-11, Japan has 4-11" (referring to President Macapagal-Arroyo's height).

ENTERTAINING. EDUCATIONAL. AWESOME!

...and we truly mean awesome

MALACAÑANG INTERACTIVE BIRD SHOW

...YOU OWE IT TO YOUR KIDS.

OCTOBER 20, 2005 to JANUARY 29, 2006 • TUESDAY to SUNDAY, 10 AM & 3 PM
NINOY AQUINO PARKS & WILDLIFE CENTER AMPHITHEATRE

TICKET PRICES: ADULT - P200, STUDENT - P100, SENIOR CITIZEN - P160
FOR GROUP BOOKINGS, CALL (632) 426 5192 or 0916 729 3012 or 929 9310
FOR GROUP BOOKINGS, CALL (632) 891 9999. FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT www.malagos.com

MALAGOS
FUJIFILM
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Hindu Times
GMA

INQUIRER Platinum Code

What can't money do to give true, authentic or immortal to the physical content of another?

Find the answer to the question in the highlighted letters above. Highlighted letters may be used more than once. Text in your answer to 2899 for INQUIRY Globe, and Sun Cellular subscribers and get a chance to win in the weekly or grand draws!

To win, simply send PTP<space>(1st to 6th letter of your name)<space>(last name)<space>(birthdate in DDMMYY format) to 2899. Ex.: PTP JU ANSWER Juan Inquirer01 Para St., Makati 020705. For succeeding answers, the registered subscriber simply sends PTP<space>(1st to 6th letter of your name) to 2899. Each entry sent to PTP. Each participant is allowed a maximum of 3 entries per day.

Prizes of value:
Grand Draw: 1 unit Honda Civic 1.8 S AT
Weekly Draws: 1 unit Honda City 1.3 S AT
Daily Draws: 1 unit Honda Motorcycle
Plus 200 daily consolation prizes of Inquirer Platinum Codes

See print ads and flyers for complete details.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Rodriguez dump reopened

By Jordyn R. Uy

PUBLIC WELFARE CAME OUT on top in the rift between Rodriguez town and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

Local officials here reopened the Montalban Solid Waste Disposal Facility in this Rizal town, after talks between Mayor Pedro Cuenco and MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando Friday night.

According to Cuenco, he and Fernando agreed that a garbage crisis would not help them one thing: one.

"A garbage crisis would affect not only our town but the suburbs of Metro Manila," Cuenco said over the phone yesterday.

The 11-hectare sanitary landfill in Rodriguez gets some 1,500 tons or about one-third of the garbage processed by the metropolis.

Although an settlement was reached Friday night, Fernando promised to look into the local government's appeal to raise the tipping fee from Php6 to Php8 per ton, Cuenco added.

Hike not in budget

The mayor said he understood that the MMDA did not include the hike in its budget in tipping fee in its budget this year.

"They have to say Metropolitan for that," the mayor said.

On the other hand, Fernando asked the mayor to give them a chance to look for additional funding to settle the agency's arrears, said MMDA deputy chief Corazon Layuan yesterday.

The agency owes the town and the dump's private operator P181 million in unpaid fees.

According to MMDA General Manager Robert Nicholas Jaro, the agency wanted to Rodriguez government P11 million by July and P10 million prior to the payment of the remaining P160 million by December.

Cuenco said that after the talk, days, he and Fernando would meet again.

Meanwhile, Fernando believed that the reopening of the landfill allayed fears of a garbage crisis in Metro Manila.

CUTE HALLOWEEN
Children at the Europa Day Care Center under Kalakbay Bulsoy Foundation pose with Halloween masks they have made as part of "Kalaro." Kalakbay sa ngalan ni Manila Dio Pisarik (NGPM), a nonprofit group encouraging volunteerism HOM recently celebrated its 4th year anniversary.

Rice dealers decry police harassment

By Nancy C. Carvajal

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION Police Office chief Director Nolal Gamad has ordered all police units and traffic enforcers in Metro Manila to stop harassing rice delivery trucks.

"Stop the malpractice that [accusations] the usage of the Philippine National Police," the Metro Manila police head said in his memorandum.

The instruction was in reaction to the complaint filed by Department of Agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban with the Office of PNP chief Director Gen. Arturo Lomibao.

According to the memorandum, the agriculture secretary informed the PNP chief of the "numerous complaints of our readers."

Among the areas identified by the agriculture secretary to problematic were the unruly boys checkpoints in Bulacan, to Orion and to Balintawak, Quezon City.

The rice traders reportedly raised their grievances with the agriculture secretary because of the delay encountered by their deliveries due to unwarranted inspections by policemen manning checkpoints.

"The intermittent checks by PNP personnel had caused delays on the delivery trucks," the complaint sheet boldly said.

Aside from the checkpoints, the rice traders also had to deal with traffic enforcers who sometimes carry out to arrest how the truck drivers who wanted to beat the week lines, a police official said.

The police official added that "loitering and bribery" still was the far of police corruption.

Former DBM head's house broken into

A BURGLAR WHO HAD TRIED to make the house of a former budget secretary at the UP Campus in Diliman, Quezon City, succeeded in his second try Friday night but was arrested.

Nothing was taken from the house and the suspect has been arrested," said Benjamin Diokno, budget secretary during the Estrada administration, to an interview over the telephone.

Asked if he saw the forced entry into his home as politically motivated, Diokno said, "I don't think so."

Police identified the suspect as Joseph Balisa, who allegedly first attempted to enter Diokno's house at about 9 p.m. through a bathroom window.

Aborted

But Balisa aborted his plan after a neighbor of Diokno saw him and called up Hotline 117, said Supt. Agripino Sapcaliz, General Police District Station 6 chief.

Balisa was able to elude responding lawmen from the University detachment and mobile patrols.

At about 1:20 a.m., Antonio Camacho, a complainant in the case, said the the one Balisa broke into the house and tried to help.

Destroyed window

The suspect, Camacho said, removed the security screen using a window at the back of the house.

Camacho's cry for help and the screams of her child, who was with her at that time, attracted the attention of neighbors and apparently guards posted near their house.

The suspect, she said, who was surprised to see them hastily opened the front door to get out.

But former Balisa could not pursue Diokno's house, a source in guard caught him.

But Balisa denied the accusation, claiming that he did not enter the former secretary's house.

"I was just passing by when I was suddenly arrested," he said.

Nancy C. Carvajal

4 alleged robbers shot dead in QC

By Nancy C. Carvajal

FOUR ALLEGED ROBBERS were killed in robot police raid on encounter at the corner of C. P. Garcia Street and Maligaya Avenue past 3 a.m. yesterday.

"A police dragnet led to an encounter between police and the suspects in a robbery of a gasoline station in Tales, Quezon City," said Central Police District Director Nicanor Nicolas.

Dead on the spot

Policemen said three of the suspects died on the spot, while a fourth suspect died in a hospital.

Two of the fatalities were identified through driver's licenses found on them. They were Arturo Rodriguez of Malabon Avenue, Caloocan, and Juan Ponce Vergara of Tandang Sora, Cavite.

Radioman said the suspects were intercepted by police when a flash alarm of the robbery was disseminated to all police radio rooms.

The type and make of the getaway vehicle were also passed on to all patrol cars, Radioman said.

The robbery happened at about 1:30 p.m.

One-and-a-half hour later

One-and-a-half hours later and several kilometers up Antipolous Avenue, police said they stumbled upon the suspects' car parked in front of the University of the Philippines campus.

When asked about the long period of time between the robbery and the suspects' encounter, Radioman said, "We find the police number and operation were on the look out."

Forced if they were sure that the slain men were the robbery suspects, the district director replied, "We are quite positive as it."

Radioman noted that the ID of the gasoline station's owner was among the evidence found in the possession of the suspects.

He added that the stolen items from the gasoline station were also found inside the car, a Toyota Corolla with plate number TBE-272.

"The money is there and we have not touched it. It's up to the Inner Bureau of the Center Operations to get the accounts," he said, adding that it was not immediately known how much money has been the gas station.

Meanwhile, one of the members of boys said several hundred pesos was inside the car could belong to other victims of the group.

Nov. 1 will be quiet in this cemetery

From page A18

cemetery with a prayer led by an unnamed religious leader," he said.

But other Muslims don't observe a particular day or month to honor their dead.

Prayers anytime

"We do pray for them but not necessarily on their death anniversary. We can read them prayers anytime," Wasmi Sorsan, an businessman, told the lawmakers last month.

He said, in between, they believed that the soul stayed with the family for 40 days before it pursued to paradise or the arch Allah.

"We remember them of their deeds in our family rites but we don't worship or venerate [them]," he added.

But condolences are not popular with Muslims. At the Jesus Dela Peña Memorial Park, those are hardly any in their area.

The more than a hundred graves at the cemetery are on the ground, ringed by hollow blocks—some painted, some plastered, some bare.

Only a few have tombstones. The names of the dead are written from the focus are carved on concrete slabs or pieces of wood.

"The hollow blocks are used to mark where exactly a body is buried," Dyhalia Pangandaman, Muslimlife's manager, explained, told the lawmakers last Nov 29 visit of some graves.

She said, a Bantayog's widow, was that dead in 1999 is buried in the Bantayog's hall, allegedly by a person unrelated as illegal drugs, she said.

She said the graves is not only ringed by pieces of hollow blocks, but it is enclosed by a concrete fence. Some graves are also with mosque-like miniature mausoleum.

Simple

The grave is a simpler and costless version of fancy mausoleums in Christian cemeteries.

"We don't build tomb so the dead could easily rise from their graves come judgment day," the Bantayog captain said.

DAILY: A handful of people come to the Muslim cemetery this season, when other burial sites are closed.

Rudolph Valmonte

Rizo said it was also important that sons bid on the grave. "It's important we come from then and wear."

What are common between Christians and Muslims, Pangandaman noted was that grave sites and so much about a family's social status.

"If a family is well-off, they could honestly the graves of their departed loved ones. But if one has not much, the hollow blocks are enough," said Pangandaman, who is a Catholic Ateneo alum.

She was born Catholic but converted to Islam when she married Salim Omar Pangandaman, a resident of Alabastlan Village for 12 years and is mother since by 2000.

Pangandaman revelled that her son was killed at night. The body was immediately buried then wrapped in a white cloth symbolizing purity. Before soon the burial her, the body was found.

But when a Muslim dead as a "shahid" or a martyr, he was buried just as he died—his wounds were untouched or bandages to honor his death.

Muslims bury their dead as quickly as possible, preferably before the sun sets on the day of death or within 24 hours after death.

A special deep hole is dug, beyond into a corner at the end does not cover the body. Bamboo sticks or hollow blocks are placed on the ground where the corpse will be placed.

The dead are buried no their side so they are facing west, in the direction of Mecca, birthplace of the prophet Mohammed and spiritual center of Islam.

No autopsy

The Muslim religion forbids autopsies, and does not allow embalming or cremation as corpses are considered sacred.

The last thing used in washing of the dead to clean white cloth are done by believers.

"We don't use coffins because we believe that from dust we came, to dust we will return," Pangandaman said.

In regular grief, Muslims would display a white cloth on door from cast instead of the black Ethnic Christians used, she added.

Though the dead was buried right away, mourning would continue seven days. A big celebration was held on the third, seventh, 40th, 100th day and one-year after death, she said.

Pangandaman did not want for Salim to visit his wife's grave. Every Friday, she would be at the grave with an imam to pray, she said.

"I pray that his soul reaches paradise," she said.

Though Muslims were not required to visit the memorial park on Nov. 1, Rizo said he would still clear it of grasses for some. Christians who would visit dead loved ones who were "baldi-dilim." Balik-Islam refers to members of other religions who became Muslims.

Syndicate pawns fake land titles, busted

By Marylou C. Ortiz

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INvestigation (NBI) has busted a syndicate engaged in the production and mortgaging of fake land titles following the arrest of three members in an entrapment in Pasay City Thursday.

The suspects were identified as Rizalo Aloy, 48, of Sta. 8 Villanueva St., Mandaue, Laguna, Evangeline Juanes, a.k.a. Annie Robles, 36, of Laguna; and Cielo Gregorio, a.k.a. Eugenio Roldan, 62, of Sta. Tomas, Batangas.

Agents are still looking for Rhenan Bunyi, "rolando Molina and Sofia Bunyi in connection with the syndicate, according to NBI Intelligence Division (NOD) chief Julio Custodio.

Custodio said the suspects used original forms for the land titles, using fabel certificates provided by unscrupulous employees of Land Registration Authority (LRA) at Regional Center.

The government agency concluded also provided original land titles for the suspects to copy on the blank forms, Custodio confirmed.

The suspects then passed the fake land titles to unsuspecting victims.

"They would not sell the land outright, but instead increase the mortgage so the victims would sometimes end up giving millions," Custodio said.

Custodio said the syndicate is still operating in Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga and Metro Manila.

BOI investigators reportedly found stolen Hyundai Excel from a burglar NBI confiscated when members of the syndicate disposed him of almost P1 million.

Gerson and Bunyi, his former housemaid, introduced him to Juanes and Marcial rules wanted to mortgage "their land" for P1,000,000.

Tuesday Bunyi, he obtained the mortgage in exchange for 1.5 percent (monthly) interest on the loan.

Weeks later, Bunyi came back with Medina who mortgaged a piece of land in Calamba in exchange for P1,20,000.

Gerson became suspicious when the group increased the mortgage of the lands to more than a million months after he agreed to give them an additional P800,000.

When he verified the land titles at the Register of Deeds in Calamba, he discovered they were fakes.

Alta, Adolfo and Gaspar were arrested by NBI agents in a restaurant on Taft Avenue while accepting marked money from the victim.

The case conducting follow up operations to determine the identities of their connections at the LRA and Register of Deeds, Custodio said.

Results through interrogations of the documents, a certification by personnel in both lands have been filed before the Bacoor City Prosecutor's Office.

Real money, no value

THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INvestigation has issued a warning against the proliferation of bogus Chinese and demonetized Peruvian dollars.

"These genuine but worthless bills have been circulating in Metro Manila, enticing many individuals who hope to make money out of nothing," NBI director Reynaldo Wycoco said.

The bills are worth P1 each.

The bogus currency is a non-negotiable instrument on the country, said NBI-Anti-Organized Syndicate division chief Noel Gaviola, citing a certification from the Bangko Sentral.

Earlier, the NBI nabbed four men and a woman selling the bills in Manila. Maryjean C. Ortiz

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

METRO

Nov. 1 will be quiet in this cemetery

By Jocelyn R. Uy

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Rain or Shine, Magnolia down opening rivals

MAGNOLIA'S Rudy Hrabosky goes for a layup off JR Quinahan.

By Jessica W. Pays

RAIN OR SHINE RALLIED FROM SEVERE double-digit deficits yesterday to nip Toyota Otis-Letran, 88-75, and share opening-day honors with Magnolia in the PBA Fiesta Cup at the La Salle Green Hills Gym.

After a shaky start, Rain or Shine roared to veteran Jun Limpada and Asaiga Jacobs in the third seven minutes to fashion out the eventual six-point win as Magnolia turned back Coyiuto Gonzo, 94-76, in the opener.

Limpada scored 21 points and completed a double-double with 10 rebounds, while Jacobs had 16 markers against his former team.

Alex reveal Ato Valenzuela, who had a forgettable season in the Philippine Basketball Association with Barangay Ginebra last year, impressed for the ho Caimi Wilcats with 17 markers with Mark Isaac backing him up with 13 points and 10 rebounds.

"We practiced as a team only two weeks ago. That's why I'm thankful for the energy that they poured on this game," said Magnolia coach Ryo Bristol.

Mamanwa sparked a decisive third quarter run for Magnolia, which turned a 48-37 edge into a 64-49 battle.

Jacobs spearheaded the scoring Rain or Shine charge, hitting two triples in a row that got his team to within 67-60 before Fred Arcilla Tanglao drew threats gave Rain or Shine the lead to stay, 71-68, 3:58 remaining.

The win marked the team for the last time at 75, before an unannounced points by Rain or Shine put the game out of reach.

Jon Calvin Davance, Toyota's prized PBA Asia rookie, finished with 16 points on top of six rebounds, four steals and three blocks.

Earlier, Olympian on her Asaiga Pajarillo signed the league's opening shot, along with the RP basketball team that will compete in the third Asian Pacific Games this December.

The scores:

First Game:

MAGNOLIA (76)—Hrabosky 21, Ong 12, Williams 10, Pinuela 7, Salido 7, Chavit Singson 6, Bustamante 5, Mamanwa 4, Arnaiz 3, Sol 0.

SUNNY KIDDIE (76)—Ato Valenzuela 17, Isaac 13, Salido 8, Ochoa 8, Lizardo 7, Lubrin 7, Cruz 5, Rosario 5, Dizon 4, Francisco 2, Abad 0, Acosta 0, Ferrer 0, Gonzalez 0.

Quarters: 19-20, 38-42, 62-64, 76-94

Second Game:

RAIN OR SHINE (88)—Limpada 21, Jacobs 16, Villanueva 9, Alejandro 8, Tan 7, Reyes 6, Abdulmalak 6, Sandoval 5, Cortez 4, Ochoa 2, Laguda 0, Ilas 0, Mercado 0.

TOYOTA (75)—Caimi Wilcats 17, Isaac 13, Ong 10, Williams 10, Alimin 7, Llanda 6, Arellano 5, Rodriguez 5, Tejada 2, Arevalo 0, Dan 0, Lansang 0.

Quarters: 19-18, 38-40, 64-62, 88-75

Pagumsan 2nd in HK

HONG KONG—JUNE PAGUMSAN sputtered when it mattered most, firing a four-over-par 75 yesterday to crumble Thai Tanasin Sivasirikul to a one-stroke victory in the individual crown in the Hong Kong Amateur Golf Open Championships.

It was a fulfilling masterpiece of the Filipinoan, who was looking honorable enough for the Filipino hero after RP Team A bagged the team title for the second straight year in Fifthy.

Sivasirikul consolidated a 1-belong tilt at the Hong Kong Golf Club's 1862 Course for a 295 total and a six-stroke cushion over Pagumsan, said by Lumbo's lifetime Fenny, who also signed for a 68.

Tanasin Sivasirikul rallied with a 69 and salvaged solo sixth at 275 behind Jonathan Leong of Singapore (70-272) and Bernard Mondek, three Thailand (67-274).

Jay Ramon finished eighth with a 277 (75), Michael Blue (-96 to 282 (73), Marvin Dumon, (the 17th of 295 (73) and Jun Rivera finished 22nd in (287) (75).

Kings test Realtors, 3rd import

STANDINGS	W	L
Pembroke Chariots	5	1
Talk 'N Text	4	1
Red Bull Barako	4	2
Alaska	4	2
Barangay Ginebra	3	3
Air21	2	3
Sta. Lucia Realty	2	4
Coca-Cola	1	5
* San Miguel Beer	0	4

* Playing at promotions

SAMEX TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)

8:30 p.m.—Barangay Ginebra vs. Sta. Lucia Realty

6:45 p.m.—Talk 'N Text vs. Pembroke

AMAY BELTRAN AND TOES TO FEED UP rookies will clash Cabagnot when Barangay Ginebra tackles Sta. Lucia Realty today in the Jun Mag Coffee PBA Patent Conference at the Samsung Coliseum.

Fresh from their conquest of the Talk 'N Text Phone Pals just a few days ago, the Gin Kings are heavy favorites in their 4:45 p.m. encounter against the Realtors, who will be making their import debut in their quest of three-game skid.

Shane Phaneuf, a 6-foot-8, shooting guard from Riverside Community College in the United States, joins ranks as new Skill reinforcement from Lone Wilmer, who proved a poor replacement for Leaky Pellerchand.

But the spotlight will be on Hollowland, who is bent on getting back at Cabagnot after the year's No. 2 draft pick humbled him and Mark Caguioa in their first meeting last Oct. 9. The Realtors-scorched encounter, 91-86.

"We have to give it to him (Cabagnot)," Hollowland said the Internet-dating his con-test-signing with the GMC Asiatic products recently. "But there's always a second game."

The Phone Pals try to bounce back against the shrinking Pembroke Chariots (Sam) in the latter game at 6:45 p.m.

The Giants are on top at 5-1 with the Phone Pals a step behind at 4-1. The Gin Kings have an even 3-3 card behind Alaska and Red Bull (4-2) while the Realtors have a 2-4 slate.

The return of Eric Menk has also boosted Pembroke stock although Barangay Ginebra coach Siot Tanquingcen said the win against the Phone Pals was a team effort.

"Eric's return was significant but I told them that not one guy would change the team," said Tanquingcen of Menk, who is still recovering from a calf injury.

Menk rejoined the lineup after the PBA related his ankle na Pil Am players who have already distinguished themselves in the league.

"We always have a hard time because of them (Phone Pals) height but never slowly proving that our disadvantage could be neutralized by effort and speed," said Pembroke coach Ryan Gregorio as he welcomed the meeting with the Phone Pals. Asia Reserve

Davao booters strike again

MACO – CZTY—CZTZTZTZTZ (24-0-0-0-0-0) Davao broke through in the fourteenth to tap a lagged-out Negros to celebrate rule, 1-0, Friday and top Group A of the 2005 UFF Aldrin E. CP National Youth Championship here.

A first-half of close teamwork made the lone, indelible Johnny Vela Makoy think the game winner with a strong shot from 10 yards on the 90th minute, breaking the heart of Cebu-based Negros on a rebound from Ignasi Campos just two minutes before the end of regulation.

Sunday only a draw is need for top spot in their group, the mutually opponent Davaoeño concentrated on defense in the first 90 minutes against a team that raised their key players and coach Norman Stapleton for the second straight game.

The four players—Jose Darius Jesus Ebarle, RJ Tordesillas and William Valencia—will play in the semifinals tomorrow against Davao on the 7 a.m. tipping of Hotel Friday.

Semi-seeder finished the top spot in Group B with a 4-1 win over Negros.

Davao plays National Capital Region in the first semifinal schedule at 9 a.m., while the Big Cebu bosses expected to be heated up by FEU standout Ronnie Jesse NEP gained up to its 23rd win today.

SPORTSWATCH

Cycling search series goes to Vigan

AFTER a day of rainout delay, Aklan is the host and finishing of the Cycling Search Series 4 Solar to Solar on New Year's Eve. As of the last of the series 4, total hours and after completing of the Mt. Apo Climb. One of the two overall separation of the ultimate season organized by Team Sales Management Corp. Sun Life Gold will hold a yacht to the bikers and their fans to cap the long ride that long has been organized by Sunstar, Sun. Lion "Chanel" Empress, the two Olympic players, and Vigan City Mayor Eustaquio Barba graced and ran the welcome race for the Vigan City cyclists. Eight separate cities on the route (the second stop sponsored by Philippine Sports Commission, Police Transport, Tri-Line Inc., Jollibee Vigan, Manila Antenna Sports Systems and Robredo. The cyclists in the alliance, elite men, masters, youth and women's categories are expected to arrive in the event earlier by Vigan Robredo and Aklan. Going Beyond Dakar Tourism officials and the organizers of the race company, between assembling City Mission and Samuel Lucero of the Region Cycle of Metro Task Force.

NU clusters dump Alabang

JAY MORAL reviewed and returned three runs as National Atlantic, ruined Alabang, 10-3, recently to its second straight win at the Alabang Country Club. Derek 12 finished with two runs and five RBI. Hugo led the losers on that same field. Faculties of the game scored for the 14th Tournament of Champions Basketball sponsored by Coca-Cola. Makati City also registered win No. 2 after beating Malabon City. The Coca-Cola event announcement organized by the Junior Basketball Coaches Association of the Philippines (JBCAP), in cooperation with Pinoy Play Sports Management and sponsored by Coca-Cola. "If they continue the way they played today, we might see an NU-Makati City championship in the 12th season," said JBAP executive director Christian Monzon.

Coasteng seeks season ending sweep

SAN PEDRO, Ilocos Norte—Andy Coasteng hopes to formally capture the crown when it hits up on his game for a season ending journey in Ilocos. Coasteng is the championship round of the 2005 Cebu National Touring Car Championship at the Batangas Touring Circuit. Number two of the Cebu National Touring Car Championship will go to Cebu Autocar with the championship round of the 2005 Asian Formula 1 Series on the "2005 Sub Pacific Extravaganza Weekend" that will showcase the country's finest car racers and automobiles.

Coasteng got the title in the Cup following the victory down of his newly modified Toyota at the second-week festival when he made his 177 points on this event crowned to the Autocross Association of the Philippines and sponsored by Petron. Others follow Eleven, Yokohama Tires and Filipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. With Coasteng as event of the season, focus was at the end of the battle for runner-up Carlsberg. Philip Alvarado of Autocross sports Malaysia Autocross National Touring Team and Dominic Ebon. Hector Hendez also took another money to check the Petron National under Touring Car Driver and Philip Ebon.

UST, La Salle head badminton field

UNIVERSITY of South Tondo and La Salle Bacolod straight-setting opponent Manila 3-0 that title attention last in the JCI Men of Manila Championship Championships with the 17-21 of the Wood Smash. Rebuilding Cubao and Quezon Avenue Cluster in Makati City. Ruby Bin-tolentino Alfredo Mabini, Rene Isidro Pandig and Ryan Gonzalez each UST's leaders lead the lab in the event, also with Tremor Chan, Paolo Chan, Rhondel Guerrero, Paolo Thadeus Thaddeus Ty, are Jean Paul Go carry the brigade for the Lady Tamaraw as they lead to defend their crown in the ladies side of the competition alongside defense. The opposing fifth right opposition of two set by stopping Betty Yanez, also a battle for the Tamaraw, was a short-middle team. Deadline for submissions of entries is on Nov. 21st issue. For details, contact the 2006, 2007, 8000-2012, 8707-8000000, 725-2000 and 2871-0000000. Also entered are the Queen U. Trinity College, Philippine General U., R.P.T.V.M.C. Mission College, Siena College College of St. Benilde, DLSU "B" and Colegio San Agustin-Bacolod each. Joining the host for the crown are Ateneo, Angeles University, U of Perpetual, University of Cebu, Jose Rizal-Makati, University of Mindanao, Ateneo de Davao and PCU, Dominican College.

Ringside TV Boxing today

GMA Studios prepared Glenn Arnaiz of Davao for middle against Aurel Pinoy in the co-feature fight of today's episode of Starlets Star Magnifi Magnifik TV Boxing, Nov. 24 p.m. on ABS-CBN Network. only 21 years old and a native of Tagbilaran City, Bohol, and a protégé of Cebu sports patron Tony Velasquez is the top challenger for the WBO Asia Pacific welterweight title in a Thai, Chanatachity Sakmek Sitthipitaya, Inc. and KOCA, with majority from OCAO. the Arnaiz-Sakmek story start took place at the Mandaue City Sports Complex Gymnasium, and will also be seen through Wednesday 10 a.m. to different locals of the United States, Canada and Japan.

Tribu Verde benefit golf Nov. 18

THE La Salle Greenhills Tribu Verde Classic '05 is a building a golf tournament on Nov. 28 at the Sta. Elena Golf and Country Club for the benefit of the Sr. Janice Ritchie La Salle Integrated School. The tournament, to be held in cooperation with the La Salle Greenhills alumni association, will also benefit the Tribu Verde Foundation and poor school children. For details, call undefined Jun Rocks (917) 8000000. Ann Mercado (0917-8000000 or LSGMPA—Phil. (7227228 and (7277228.

70 fights up in Las Piñas derby

A BIG record is expected tonight at the Las Piñas Coliseum when the Sunday General Boxing starts. At last 70 pugilists, among them four "El Kjells," Sparrows in Singapore competition 2006. This is the first time that Las Piñas Coliseum will hold a fights event on a Sunday, said coliseum manager Alex Tolosa. Derby fans Danny Wall will be supported by Mayor Mayor Mike Aguilar as well as members of the Pinoy Cockpit Coliseum Association (PCCA) and Gentlemen Cockers Association of the Philippines (GCAP). Among the participants are Boy de Pinoy Pratish Antonio, Pro Dumbacks, Executive Nina, Mariano Abas, Bernard Jr., Gary Ramos, former senator Ramon Revilla, Gerogan Arnaiz, Manny Dolores, Ole Gamaru Capt. Gold Boys, Ben Velez, Pedro Borges, Danny Lopez, Alex Tolosa and Andy Sapanta. Accomplices, contact (63-2) 4142 and (63-2) 4141.

3rd leg of LGBA derby Nov. 6

THE Third and finishing of the Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) 7-derby series, which has allocated thousands of fighters with bottom outings, is scheduled at the Quezon Coliseum on Nov. 5 and 6. The Gamecock Breeder of the Year title will be awarded to the event, said LGBA president Peter "Boy" Chua. The fighting contestants are also bases of Rizal, 1-1 points (Jaypee of Lgaco 4's, Ann Gelacio and Irene Garcia 1210, Jaime Antonio Jr.), Tony Boy Tabora, Eugenio Tan and Larry Sevilla (12), Joel Philippe 20, Alex Tang, Jose Gutierrez, Joel Arbit, Ray Zamora, Jun Chiong, Peter Chan and Gilbert Palanca. (12) | For information, contact 929-1908, 924-4372 and (632) 4141 (Fax). Event sponsors are Lakpom Group Inc., Rebuilders Excellence Generation Specialists, Translational Commerce and Vitamin Pandering.

Eugene's move; NLEX delight

ATHLETES SAY LIKE YOU AND ME: JUST 'DOE' (DOING?) Like you and me, you, too love to entertain thoughts of engaging in this business of selling.

It is, therefore, not surprising if you see Cherie putting up their own restaurants. Among the pioneers include Stanley "The Apprentice" Ong and Allan "The Juggernaut" Caidic, Ramon "El Presidente" Fernandez, Olivia Rienda and Mark Bilbao, to name a few.

And so in a way short while, we oldies will join the fast-fi sign athlete-office restaurant.

Al S. Benavidez

I mean, to a more thr ion't really much of a Ray Lopez or an Abelardo depending of course on which side you are in. Bogart Tuano, the great ol' practitioner does has ever produced (and he's still going strong, mind you), still open the cans sensational diversity at Kalipunan Ave., corner Dominican Road in Quezon City's posh White Plains area.

It could happen on Nov. 6, the 54th birthday of Eugene Torre, a national sporting treasure whose humility is beyond compare.

Eugene's restaurant had its "soft opening" on Friday, Oct. 28, and I tell you, the menus that day—even as it was just a glimpse of what is being heralded about as a "festival of succulent delights"—could give the established eateries in the area a run for their money. Mention Ruan Mamba's "My Love" Torre will make the kitchen.

A birdie told of his longtime friend's cook Ilgin ("My Love" calls him "Grocery Daddy"), Eugene is trying to help the chief running the joint E.T. Ross is Cindi Cuanio.

What do you think, fellas?

I have suggested "Eugene Torre Sa A Restaurant" simply because the name "Eugene Torre" itself sums up everything about the man: the country's living legend in chess.

Oh, well I can only suggest, of course.

If you think you know better (dow, me there is OUSAMACH, Eugene & "My Love" will ask for you glad to hear from you.

Scores say boxer-lawyer JayBatumbakal (Sinbadong Dila, 28, and 31 win three again yesterday Dec. 29.

It did both ring back and forth in one day—to a history & didn't take me three hours to complete one rip of 17 kilometers, one way.

Ah, the race with which I start the day—four blocks in the morning to catch the 6 a.m. breakfast of Rizal delegation's famed chairman (supreme and head of everyone), Ariel Inigo and president ng Mangunetan, then drive to home just before mid-afternoon, arriving in Quezon City usually before 5:30 p.m.

Some you discerned that, sometimes it's most troublesome going to Makati from my home in Quezon City and back is also afternoon when driving up North and then homeward bound on the same day.

The completely remodeled NLEX (North Luzon Expressway) of the late 80 has given me back the joy of the open road I've used to golf. during the Dr country roads you expect one now.

Oh, how I love to see hills in their naked innocence driving into them from Intipi rooftops during the highway—the same thing I did for weekends when I was growing up, driving down to family visit—first Tarlac off Pagpat Lumbres along the now-famous Rizal-Highway not for from Candaba, Tarlac, Pulilan, Sto. Tomas.

Indeed, if we want things done in the NLEX example showed, there is nothing in this world that cannot be accomplished.

As Administrator Jose Angel of Barcelo, Inc/Pencil-co, said, "The new NLEX is the best thing that ever happened to the Philippines in a long, long while."

Do I see a smile on Marlene Orbos's lips?

Rhetoric, of course, is the furthest side the mind of Pangulo Joma, the unassuming genius behind the magic that is NLEX.

SATURDAY. I conclude dinner with my former associates from Manila "Dee" Ships, who just got a new, longtime, SI, after a lingering illness. Yesterday they laid To (dear Adventure Sister), a loyal friend for lady & dear head resting place at the Marian Catholic cemetery in Mangatarem, Pangasinan. All her seven children—Nellie Mercury, Buen Ships, Rhea Rosales, Lily Ordaz Hall and Jose—were in attendance during the burial rites. Congratulations to the PLDT Business Group for organizing this NLEX (not all those championship events, Chavit)

16 archers on to SEAG

SIXTEEN BELIEVE AND CONQUERS BOW archers have been recommended to join the national cohort in the 23rd SEA Games at the Subic Bay Freeport (or Magpet City to remember).

Three ace Alcantara—Jasmine Figueroa, Rachelle Anne Cabral, Edwina Alice Reyes, Earlene Jeanette Torres, Rosario Hanna, Marvin Cordero, Mark Javier and Gianfranco Cabilla.

Compound—Jessaya Bac, Jennifer Chan, Jeanne Tolentino, Abigail Nachajon, Carlos Garay, Allen Rosendo III, Jil Gabriel and Ford Bongcaras Jnr.

They were recommended to the NAAP (National Archery Association of the Philippines) Board led by Dr. Lemuel Fely Bautista.

The runners coaching staff is composed of Bruno Manalang, head coach; Dr. Ferdinand Bautista, assistant coach; Barangay and Cinjon Guevara, assistant coach, handling the compound section; Rolando Cortez Jr., head coach; Manuel Martinez, coach; and Ms. Veronica Castillo, assistant coach/ psychologist.

A driven team has only one destination: the championship.

The PSU 'sweepers in 2005: UAAP Men's Basketball Champions. Marvel Santos (Most Valuable Player, Best Defensive Player, Mythical Five), Mark Isip (Mythical Five), Roberto Flores (Coach of the Year). **UAAP Junior Men's Basketball**: Raphael Dyke Mangubat (Rookie of the Year), Dexter Rosales (Mythical Five). **UAAP Men's Volleyball Champion**. Jeremy Floyd Pedregosa (Most Valuable Player, Best Spiker), Jessie Lopez (Best Server), Avelino Tungao (Best Libero). **UAAP Women's Volleyball**: Rachel Anne Daquis (Best Server). FEU The Winning University.

www.feu.edu.ph

Sunday BIZ

Email pi_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor Margie Quiroga-Espino

Putting RP on the BPO map

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

ERNEST L. CU REALIZES TODAY THAT HE has been preparing for his role to put the Philippines on the business process outsourcing map his entire career.

He put on a remarkable performance as SPI Technologies, the company he has been leading since 1998, has become synonymous with quality Philippine labor in the overseas markets.

Affirmation of his efforts came in 2003 when he was named the Ernst and Young "Entrepreneur of the Year" for the Information and Communications Technology category for his achievement in the thriving BPO sector.

Better proof is that SPI Technologies has moved away from the simplest BPO jobs, such as outsourcing data into digital format, to the more high-value, precision work such as publishing, medical transcription, retail financial services and insurance claims processing.

First job

BPO refers to the various adopted by large companies, mostly in the United States and Europe, of outsourcing non-core operations to other countries.

These include customer service, accounting and payroll services.

Today, SPI Technologies is one of the world's largest independent content outsourcing service firms, with 6,500 employees working in 22 offices in 10 countries, 4,000 of which are in the Philippines.

Cache of skills

Cu tells Sundaybiz that the experiences he gained from all the previous jobs added to the cache of skills that he digs into as he navigates the company through turbulent changes of the highly competitive BPO industry.

At the Bank of America, where he worked after coming his MBA from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, he was introduced to the outsourcing industry as the bank at the time was processing the payroll of outside clients.

Cu, second office clerk years in Boeing's, computer systems analyst for the United States, as project manager of in information technology centers.

Then he put up his own desktop services company and grew entrepreneurship.

Cu was able to build the company up to four firms in South and in Angeles in Vancouver, Canada. But he sold his interest when the Caribbean economy suffered a setback in the early '90s.

He then found himself back in the corporate world, joining a Japanese firm that did commercials, outsourcing and marketing contacts.

Cu stuck it out with the company for a while and he took on a variety of positions, eventually becoming its chief financial officer.

He was in that position when he decided to come back to the Philippines in 1997 to put SPI Technologies.

"I believed I was prepared for what I was going to do," Cu says in an interview.

He says he took fortunate for his experiences as an entrepreneur since despite the size of the company today, SPI still needs to be nimble enough to jump to opportunities that go as quickly as they come.

New thinking

But Tales Cu thinking of an entrepreneur just starting a business whose survival rests on his ability to take risks and quickly grab opportunities.

"That entrepreneurial spirit must be there, especially in a nascent business where changes come fast," Cu says. "If you are too bureaucratic, you will not survive."

That spirit enabled the company, for instance, to see the potential of the call center industry.

SPI put up eVillecom in 1999 with the first customer service call answered in September 2000, and the successful operations got the attention of American companies looking to outsource such to outsourcing non-core operations.

SPI has since spun off the call center business to concentrate on the data side the company has let the number lock in the outsourcing business.

"We always start on the bottom, learn the basic work and then work our way up," he says.

From prototyping to transcription, SPI has moved on to copy-editing and even reviewing some of the documents sent to the company.

SPI today is the leading provider of editorial and content production services to the scholarly, scientific, technical and medical journal and book publishing industry.

SPI went up the value chain to do other services, such as legal, financial, retail and medical transcription businesses.

Cu says SPI evolved into a more high-value BPO company because of the competence of its workforce, especially in the Philippines where the bulk of its work is done.

He also expresses confidence that the Philippines will hold its own and fend off competition from other BPO destinations such as India, Ireland, Malaysia and Thailand because the value of service is very much ingrained among Filipinos, especially among employees of SPI Technologies.

"We have a culture where people work beyond the quitting time," Cu says, "we have a certain passion for the work. We like it for what it is and we love to get it to our customers on time."

He says the set of skills and ethics should be nurtured among Filipinos. Cu says more job opportunities should follow the way of the Philippines as the country currently is positioned to be attuned.

"BPO is the logical business for the Philippines. It is here where we have the best choice of services," he says.

And if the Philippines takes this path, Cu will surely be there every step of the way.

CU (center) with Sen. Mar Roxas, Ramonne Reglos-Medina, SPI's chair of the board, and Derk Haank, CEO of Springer Science + Business Media, during the senator's visit to SPI's Pasay-based facility.

ERNEST Cu with Jan Broers, president & COO of SPI Legazpi Direct, during the company's formal inauguration of its Manila facility

Charito's Delights:
Mother's legacy to her daughter

By Noemie S. Lidro
PhilAmerican Bureau

CATBALOGAN, SAMAR — TRADE-mentality revived only during election and supervalentine years, some old-timers are now told all year round in "pasalubong" stores or even at shopping malls.

But behind these deliveries that survived the passing of time are people who strived to persevere and pass onto the next generation their traditional cooking and baking.

One of these people was Charito Ty. But long before she was known by her cakes and pastries and only on Samar but in other places as well, the stout-hearted matriarch did, after nearly losing her husband to cancer and then, managing the pili, bapia de pili, cassava, cocoa, cocoa and tuba, among other traditional items in Catbalogan, she still established even if the period away some 15 years ago.

Charito learned the basics of baking from her mother and aunts. Born Irene Lim, she was the eldest daughter of Tiburcio Lim and Felisa Ong, who had a modest store in the home town of Villareal, Samar, where he also tilled a small farm, the family income was not enough to support the nine Bronquis children, so her aunts studying in Catbalogan.

To help augment her husband's income, Charito started accepting orders from neighbors, relatives and friends. Soon, her cakes and pastries were in demand that she turned it into a cottage industry. Her income helped send all their nine children through college.

Before she died in 1999, Charito was able to pass on her culinary skills to at least one daughter. That daughter had to carry on the tradition, but started from scratch after the years over her mother's bakeshop business.

From mother to daughter

Emma Bermejo, the eighth of Charito's nine children, recalls that she was her mother's constant companion since she was 10 years old until she graduated from high school and went to Manila to continue her studies.

Emma served as her mother's assistant in her baking. Since then did not have an oven at the store, she would accompany her mother to the bakery where they would have what they prepared baked.

"In the past, baking sets just a hobby of my mother, she loves to bake and test the results," Emma recalls.

A few years later, Charito bought a microwave and since then she started the baking in their home. "There was no display cabinet goods for sale) there all her cousins were with in-laws," Emma says. "And we only bake when there were orders. These kinds of products were not available in the bakeries."

Emma says the orders were heavy during fiestas but customers also came to place orders for Christmas, weddings and birthdays. Bakeshop not others going on a trip would also drop by to buy "pasalubong."

Charito's home-baked cakes and pastries became popular through word of mouth, and her customers kept increasing.

Early in 1989, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) coaxed her to join the Tsuneyoyan trade fair in Manila. Seeing this as an opportunity to promote her native delicacies, she accepted the invitation but not Emma to the fair.

About a month later, Charito became ill and was hospitalized. She died in March 1989 after staying in the hospital for weeks. According to Emma, they spent all her mother's savings but her small business for the hospitalization. The family even incurred debts.

With Charito gone, they closed their small bakeshop and sold the house all the modern.

Turning point

"Actually I had no intention then of reopening the business because I was still grieving," Emma says. But an incident changed her mind. A former client then place one day and told them that the bakeshop, who recently received a gift of pastillas de ube, and it was delicious. She wanted to know if I have home-addressed order, can cater to content.

"We explained that we have not been making anything because mother had died, and the bakeshop was closed. Then I told about two months." Emma says she says she was pained that an acquaintance person now desecrating the good name of her mother.

To preserve the reputation of her mother and her siblings and name of their customers, Emma reluctant to reopened her mother's bakeshop.

"I was afraid then that people might not buy from me. Yes, my mother was well known but she was gone and I'm only her daughter," she says.

EMMA Bermejo could not stand the thought of more spoilers people producing inferior products and passing them off as her late mother's, so she continued producing her mother's recipes. ALEX CASTRO/PHILAMERICAN

Emma borrowed P10,000 from an older sister as starting capital and looked for suppliers of pili nuts, going as far as Bordeaux Island and Bicol by herself. She also recruited helpers and contacted their former suppliers of ube (yam) jam.

To preserve and re-hone pasalubong their former products as that of Charito's, Emma properly labeled all their goods. She sought the assistance of DTI and the Design Center of the Philippines in coming up with good packaging and product design.

She first used Charito's Cakes and Pastries as their business name. Later on she changed this to Charito's Delights.

She also continued to attend fair invitations and food exhibitions sponsored by the DTI and other groups, and there she noticed that many people admired and bought her cakes, pastries, sweets and cookies that were then already in attractive packages.

Aside from the cakes and pastries that her mother used to bake, Emma also introduced other products like ensaymada in which were like "native flour" mixed and Emma decided to expand.

Their close to their confidence in Mimosa district was far from the town's commercial center and their small property was not also looked for a place to a commercial part of Catbalogan.

But first, she opened a branch store in Tacloban City in 1995. Then in 2000, she set up another branch as a small tuner on the ground floor of a building along the busy San Roque Street in Catbalogan town.

She also has a Two-story building in Santa Elder district, also in Catbalogan, where she stores all of her cakes and pastries are being produced.

Early this year, Emma expanded her store in San Roque Street. She said she not only cakes and pastries but also together goods for her customer customers.

Using her culinary skills, Emma native not only commits but like local spoon also as spicy "adobong puso" but also the "tomalos," a traditional dish of Catbalogan that is made of pork and spicy peanut sauce that is wrapped in banana leaves and steamed for hours.

If the town still store Gabay Charito would be delighted to see other Emma has been doing in the kitchen there past several years.

Training future workers of call centers

By Frank Cimatu
PhilNorthern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY — THE TWO CLASSes, interestingly known as "Mr. outsource" and "Washington," started gelling the pairing in the Igorot people as some of those dressed the rabbi or the days courtship dance. They were had a fashion show of country western outfit.

The other is was time for them to talk, they spoke in American English, in an accent meaning what is known in the call center industry as the Boly Gold: the neutral accent.

"Mr. outsource" and "Washington" complete the five graduates of "Training train Babyboy import to home" in Tuesday, the first school specifically aimed at creating manpower for the one-to call center industry.

Thirty-two the Baguio City government, Baguio Bay, Municipality Development of Labor and Employment, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and Council of Baguio and valley call center facility in the city, subsidizing the education of the future call center agents.

Information Philippines says the bid to Smooth Towers, and the Baguio branch is the pilot of the plan. The soon to be nationwide program.

The Caraballan Information and Communication Technology Council has 12 private sole to the call center industry.

The successful applicants are required to pay P5,000 for the program, which typically costs P25,000. The government subsidizes part of it while CherryLogic is expected to pay the program for every call center applicant it gets from the program.

Baguio Mayor Braulio Yaranon said that they were very willing to shell out money for the program because it would benefit as part of the city's call center promotion project.

"Mr. outsource" and "Washington" are two of another 190 call Towers is aiming for 3,000 trainees in Caraballan upon ramp.

According to Cynthia Bautista, Towers program manager, the program is a "short-term intervention program for potential call center agents."

Most of the first graduates come from Mrs. Balitaya and Mountain Province.

Arnold Yabao, 27, of Sabak, Bolinga, says she found the investment from a government station in his hometown.

A management graduate, Yabao was among the thousand who applied and among the lucky who made it.

The applicants' ages range from 18-40 years old. The minimum educational requirement is two years college but most are college graduates.

The typical Towers program is eight hours a day for 20 days or a total of 200 hours. Yabao had to stay with a course throughout the training which started in September and ended on Oct. 21.

Modules are short of time training involves communication and technical skills.

Yabao says the technical skills the learned included Internet search and call center scripting and troubleshooting. He says they worked in shifts to simulate the actual in-time schedule of typical Philippine call centers.

"We have several trainers who teach them customer service English. He don't need to teach them slang, we know most American slang here in the Caraballan than the typical American," Mardino says.

"Because of the many cloned accents in the US, we are working from this neutral accent although there is no such thing," she adds.

As to why there were more graduates, at least in the first class, from the region of Caraballan, Shih Gomez of Towers says this was due to the American influence in the region.

"We see more Caraballanese applying as call center agents because they already can speak and sometimes think as an American," Gomez says.

Modules, however, are the most crucial part of the training test to give the applicants the

CONTINUED ON C3

AskMeNow: Not just another call center

DON ETHAN, Gary Cohen (seated) and Hub Cohen

WHEN MARK COHEN LEFT SAN FRANCISco in October 2004 with board approval in hand to set up a contact center in Manila, he knew the job would be tough. But it's hard, executive who has been at and out of that city the past 25 years, he also knew that he had a golden aspect family to tap the Filipino knowledge worker.

He told his younger brother Darryl, who had just scrutinized the client meeting of the AskMeNow board, that setting up the business would not be so difficult: the Philippines was already home to a number of large call centers... many of them expanding. The likes of Convergys, People Support, ICT, Pinkle and others were already with nearly 10,000 seats combined. But there is a place that was good to businesses like these, Mark reasoned, still probably be a good place for AskMeNow.

The work of AskMeNow closely resembles other home call centers: dealing with is to be done by humans and the final point is the personal shift. It taps techno savvy call center workers and relies on them having a good grasp of American English and American culture.

The whole idea knew that it did not end there. While he may be setting up a call center without phones, he knew that the people he needed must be empowered: they not only had to be proficient in the use of the World Wide Web, they also had to have the brains for finding answers quickly and using their own judgment on a basis that was easy to read and figure. These people, the AskMeNow consultant, would not be giving out canned answers or reading an open spirit. Such people could prove difficult to find. But then he has experienced. After all, AskMeNow is a new business concept. Even for the frontal brains.

What do you want to know

AskMeNow is a new service that will find answers to any question you may have. Because it is also a wholly owned subsidiary of Ocean Point Holding Corp., a Florida-based company publicly traded over the counters as "PNBC" on the Nasdaq.

AskMeNow is the service simply send in your questions through cell phones or BlackBerry® handhelds and other PDAs. Through a simple phone call or text message, and they promptly get an answer back on their mobile device within seconds or minutes. It's a service that enables customers to have a personal assistant at their call. They can intend to other tools while AskMeNow hinders the information, scouring the vastness of Internet search engines or cell phones or the transposition of waiting on hold for an operator.

While AskMeNow uses advanced technology to answer many of the questions such as telephone number lookups, stock quotes or weather forecasts, the company taps young Internet savvy Filipinos to answer questions that are simply beyond the capability of automated technology questions like "Who is the first?" "Where is the airport in Tokyo" and "What time is it tomorrow in Rome in the course of his and work answers in New York City?"

People power

Powered by today's fastest desktops and fat connections to North America, there are thousands answers questions from all over the US from no customer center in the Television Towns in Makati. Callers says have more confident those days as he can see many people have capable of doing the job of answering answers. "We are on a constant lookout for bright customer service people to work with us."

He is also confident that he will be able to fill the requirements of chief technology officer (CTO) Don Ethan, who has been flying to and out of Manila spreading warmth to two of a time have putting together his team of software developers.

A 20-year Silicon Valley veteran, Ethan has worked with some of the world's leading technology companies including Cisco Systems, Applied Process Technology, Hewlett Systems, Gold Technology and Touch Interactive. He holds over 30 patents in the US, including the patent for the auto Flip function used to automatically load CDs and DVDs inserted into computers, and has a number of pending patent applications.

Ethan expects to develop a number of new and exciting applications for AskMeNow in Manila which he believes could put the Philippines back on the map alongside the technology heavyweights around the globe.

"You could see many good news around here," Steve told new recruits at the AskMeNow facility, as he described the kind of technology that could be done right here in the Philippines.

Proudly answered in RP

AskMeNow currently employs more than 100 highly qualified corporate-level, multilingual agents... as Manila is help the company provide thousands of responses daily to customers in the US. The facility is available to 400 representatives with the ability to respond to more than 10,000 customer questions daily.

"The Philippines possesses tremendous talent, and we remain thrilled with the response that we have received," says AskMeNow CEO Darryl Cohen. "We envisage more countries to utilize the Philippines for high level English call for supplies minutes."

At the inauguration of the facility at the Television Towers, Cohen said Trade Secretary Peter Favila: "I have been thoroughly impressed with the level of talent and knowledge work ethic I've observed amongst our newly appointed AskMeNow agents in Manila."

The company, which sets its clients "What do you want to know?" is positioning itself to take advantage of the competition and evolving search engine arenas with its wireless solution. With search giant Google and Yahoo! moving in new and surprising

CONTINUED ON C3

Business clinic on financial analysis for SMEs

ENTREPRENEURIAL VOLUNTEERS FOUNDATION Inc. (EVFI), a foundation-initiated by businessmen, business executives and civic leaders to the benefit of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), will hold a free Business Clinic on "Financial Analysis for SMEs" on Nov. 25, 2006 at the Multiwood Lounge of Commission Bldg., 709 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City. The clinic will be conducted by Roderick A. Alvendia.

Pre-registration, please contact Ruth Espino, Volunteers Foundation Inc. at 636-5101 to 02 or Fax No. 636-5104 or e-mail at info@evfi.ph necessary. No fees will be charged. Donations will be accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

UK software firm appoints RP partners

MEDIBIZ FIRM ABILITY SOFTWARE International has signed exclusive distribution agreement with local software distributor Medtech for Business Management Inc. (e-BMI) for its integrated office software called Ability Office.

Ability Software is the ability software division of Premier plc holding exclusive worldwide selling rights for the Ability Office range, an integrated suite of productivity applications that will locally cost 65 percent lower than the industry's leading office suite.

e-BMI's appointment as exclusive country partner for Ability Office makes the Philippines the first and only Asian country granted retail sales distribution rights by Premier plc since taking on-year agreement.

"We're delighted to have recruited a high-quality distributor in the Philippines that has a reputable track record in software distribution," said Ability Software's managing Director Chris England.

AskMeNow . . .

From page B1

directions and check focus on quantity search engine features, the search service is expanding its investments to evaluate its use.

AskMeNow, a 408-8- provider answers to questions covering areas such as current news and events, sports facts and trivia, history, weather, entertainment, stock quotes, market rates, driving directions, flight status and schedules, emergency disaster information, computer tech shopping, communication, directory assistance, random trivia, and so on.

The company launches commercial operations in the US this November as it grows in to the first mobile lifestyle network in the state. The firm also announced the release of availability for interaction with on-the-go information penalty revenue-led in the Philippines.

In a world where knowledge is power and information is key, AskMeNow promises to be one of the most essential services to have and one of the most inspiring places to work.

Training future . . .

From page B1

confidence to speak English.

Silverstein Dugan led to recruit dedicated and therapists Reba Cervantes for the outdoor therapy training.

Edmo says they were encouraged to speak to each other in English within the campus to familiarize themselves with the language.

She says she would wait for a month after graduation for her call from CleveLogic. The US-based call center, which is the first to move out of Manila with the establishment of their center in the Bagtas Economic Zone last year, has the right to first refusal of the Union graduates.

Medtech says they are getting calls from other call centers in Manila asking for their graduates.

According to the US-based research firm Datamonitor, there would be as much as 22,000 additional call center agent positions through 2010.

Other sources even say that the Philippines will surpass India by 2008 to home to the world's largest call center industry.

The IMCInc., a Manila-based research and advisory firm, says the industry would generate $3 billion in revenues by 2008.

EXPERIENCE. Jamaican cover Sean Kerrin reported to over 25 trainees at InfoTech, a Baguio-based school which had won the contract to train future workers of call center firms like Client Logic.

KING JAMES AUCTION CALENDAR

ON-SITE AUCTION

MARGARINE PROCESSING PLANT (ALMOST NEW!)

AUCTION DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2006, THU, 10:00AM
REGISTRATION & VIEWING DATE: OCT. 30, 31 &
NOV. 1, 2006, MON, 9:00AM to 5:00PM
SITE LOCATION: BRGY. SABANG, LIPA, BATAN.

EQUIPMENT TO BE AUCTIONED: ASSORTED CONVEYING OF APPROX 100 TONS HEAVY METAL SCRAP, I-BEAM, CHANNEL, 3D PLATE, 2D ALUMINUM, COPPER BUS BAR, BOILER, PANEL BOARDS, CONTROL PANEL, ELECTRICAL FITTINGS, ARRIMA COMPRESSOR, GENERATOR, ETC. ETC. ETC. TO TAKE COMPLETE LINE OF MARGARINE PROCESSING MACHINERY & COMPLETE LABORATORY EQUIPMENT FOR MARGARINE PRODUCTION, CAPACITY OF 2 TONS/HOUR, WEIGHING SCALE, FILLING WEIGHING SCALE TO BE USED FOR MARGARINE PACKAGING, ETC. ETC. ETC. ASSORTED OFFICE FURNITURES, ASSORTED OFFICE EQUIPMENT, ETC. ETC. ETC.

REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF P 20,000.00

FOR INQUIRIES AND REGISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT: TEL: 721-2031, 721-3177, 800-6333, 200-8248, MOBILE: 884-3333
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.kingjamesauction.ph.nr
OR EMAIL US AT: kingjamesauction@yahoo.com

Rehimendland

Peso Time Deposit
Beat the odds for only P25,000!

TERM	INTEREST RATE*
5 Years + 1 day	8.00% per annum
3 Years	8.00% per annum
1 Year	7.00% per annum

Interest for 3 years + 1 day term are credited monthly and not subject to withholding tax for individual depositors.

Please call for 30, 60 & 90 days rates

PNB ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP

PUBLIC AUCTION

WITHDRAWN
WITHDRAWN

www.pnb.com.ph

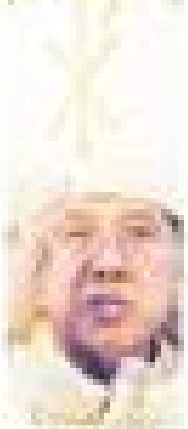
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE

Remembering . . .

They had to go and too soon. Inquirer remembers some of the dear departed whose recent passing has left a void in the hearts of many

Larger than life

Jaime Cardinal Sin, national conscience



He called his palace the house of Sin. By the time of his death, he had molded the Philippines into the nation of Sin

By Urduja Zamora

WHEN THE PATRIOT PLANNER and a political ally borrowed one of the "Hello, Garci" tapes purportedly showing President Macapagal-Arroyo talking to a Comelec official about rigging the election last June, many turned to Jaime Cardinal Sin for guidance. But also, the church leader died as the political events had just quickened, and didn't get to witness his successor's words on the crisis. His opinion would have spelled either the absolution at the end of the presidency for unfounded woes like those others were for protest boy Bishop Ariel, claim the voices would go.

Sin (born 1928) was installed as the nation's most important archbishop in 1974, a country hospitable from Mayor Ahmad Zar had been here. Radio unthinkably before) and a subject of constant gossip at just 46 years old. His appointment by the Vatican was met by assessment as common elders coming to his archaeological status, a legacy of his ethnic Chinese beginnings. Critical walls with impersonation and overall tone, he made his of his young and widespread visibility to the history's politics with the by-now legendary greeting, "Welcome to the House of God".

Since then, it seemed as if the house had grown up to a nation—the nation of Sin. Its powerful and devoted was the Cardinal that he seemed to remind the Philippines into one vast democracy under the influence of the Metropolitan of Manila. He lashed hostile early by ousting even Ferdinand Marcos on several occasions over corruption and the loss of liberties. The clash came to a head in 1986 when, after condemning the fraud and violence that marred the snap presidential election, he called on the people to protect military defectors who had installed Marcos' ouster by the elections. Millions poured into the streets to obey the call. It was the start of the people power wave of democracy movements around the world and the end of three decades of Marcos.

The success of the revolution confirmed Sin's status as one of the world's most influential church men, perhaps as par with Pope John Paul II who often bypassed ex-churchmen dabbling in politics but seemed to look the other way on many others. Sin made his bold and dirty political stance. Even when favorable viewpoint of the 1986 intervention in 2001 when he called for the ouster of former President Joseph Estrada, the Pope didn't show his displeasure.

The two had become fast friends since the two conclaves of 1978 in which Sin, as the youngest cardinal, shocked the bishops, including determinedly unaligned at the time Polish Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, as the latter gradually got the votes that ended him the papacy. Both were intensely spiritual persons who had a indelible devotion to the Blessed Mother and the saints. But they were also intensely political. John Paul demolished communism totalitarianism in Europe. Sin demolished corrupt capitalist dictatorships. Their spirituality enlivened the Democracy churches of contemplation in action—that religious men and women should take their strength from prayer and ready and attempt into the apostolate in order to share the fruits of contemplation.

Sin, however, has witnessed perhaps a more potent ecclesiastical incident, and a source of moral preservation that, in the new millennium, the pastors should go not after the other. When John Paul died on April 2, it revived only a matter of time for Sin's failing body, which he did on June 11 after a prolonged fight with a kidney disease. "He was bigger than life, so none could replace him," said Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz, who was once Sin's spiritual backup. Oh how true! In their wake, the Pope and Sin have left a yearning void for the believers should pray now to thanksgiving. Catholics and non-Catholics now call him Mad Saint. And Filipinos now call the Cardinal, beloved Sin.

The gentleman from Bicol

Raul Roco, statesman

He showed heart-breaking never-say-die spirit when he ran for the presidency while battling cancer

By Constantino C. Tejero

RAUL ROCO, THE LAW-maker from Bicol, rose to death opposite to be sitting the league of Extraordinary Gentlemen in Philippine modern history, which includes Claro M. Recto, Jose W. Diokno, Lorenzo Tañada, Ninoy Aquino and by few others whose lives a thankful act now will forever associate with statesmanship and nationalism. In other words, people who leave behind no enemies.

Roco was a corporate lawyer and had been president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, until he was swept off by the storm of Marcos. Just after the February 86, he chose politics, and in as 1987 he was the Congress as the first post-Marcos national elections and won.

"It wasn't a problem to him, because he understood Philippine politics from the beginning," says his son Raul Jr. "He was quick to adjust. He just used his attitude as a lawyer [while among politicians, in the world of politics]."

An unpretentious and down to earth, Roco liked left, also left that tried to uplift the life of the common folk, among them his pro-women legislation and bills on drinking and abortion. These, along with his brief term as education secretary, have proven to be his lasting legacy for the Filipino people.

Then, in the mind of the common folk had evolved an image with some opposite—from corporate lawyer to legislator to family man, champion of women and children. The latter image was enhanced when in the mid-'90s he changed from his senator-groomed conservative outfit and started wearing loose polo shirts with bright floral print.

With his low personal ratings, large votes, and unpopular ally aligned with Erap, Roco had become a tallest figure to many. He appeared approachable, was often seen smiling, and went to a book and they where displeased. Like a father, indeed.

That Roco temper was displayed to the general public in his fight for the impeachment of President Joseph Estrada in 2000.

Toward the end of his life, he showed a heartbreaking trait—fortitude. One never can die quiet, when he campaigned for the presidency last year while in the midst of his battle against colon cancer. He died on May 5.

Last Wednesday, Oct. 26, two hospital Roco's institutes. He would have turned 66.

Let's look for the gentleman from Bicol.

Remembering . . .

A singular life

Haydee Yorac, lawyer-professor, activist, civil servant

By Lucia B. Bolivia

WE SHARED FRIENDS but never became close. But everywhere I went, whenever people asked me about Haydee, there was never a need for explanation; a modifier or adjective for me to have to use. Forty years.

There was only one Haydee. Most people outside the Philippines would not have answered to, and thus would not know.

She was the quintessential feminist and political activist not because she said so herself but because she lived a life positively the half-pale mirror because she was the best person to be pale.

People would often speculate on why certain individuals accepted appointments to government. Why it became of ambition, political expediency or greed? They did not seem to have such doubts when Yorac was given government positions, accepting but to the qualified. They also never attempted to hide that she would sell-out the way others before and after had to wealthy and made done.

Yorac seemed to operate under her own moral compass that did not allow for a lot of deviation, unlike many other people's. When she did not call have Marcos sue stuck at the University of the Philippines College of Law, even though her father was the secretary state of the country, it did not seem to be a matter down of defiance of an authoritarian regime, but simply a decision to apply the rules impartially and fairly regardless of the "reward" and the person.

She was always true to her self, and even attempting a temporary team-keeping of her image when the lies for the better. Rules thrust to a song and dance number to draw attention to her causes, she definitely would not do a song and dance performance simply to get down ed.

Once we had dinner with a mutual friend. She was then, I think, with the Commission on Elections. At first time, the professional was having another round of ice-breaker chorus and guilt and corruption investigations. Many officials were proclaiming with dreams and eyes, both Yorac honesty and doing anybody to prove otherwise.

When people asked Yorac about her own record, she simply replied, "I am honest." Its description, its qualities, its modesty. A simple statement of the time no doubt was received without the snickers, the sarcasm, the silent embrace that most other people's declarations of probity.

Unsung heroine

Consuelo Lacusong, shot-put record holder

By Vangie Buga-Bajen

HAD THERE BEEN SUCH THING AS HELL, what is her own equal—and quite—Consuelo "Connie" Lacusong-Lacusong brought pride and glory to the Philippines.

All these years since Lacusong set the national mark of 13.92 meters in women's shot put during the National Open in Cebu City on June 22, 1975, her record is unbroken.

Lacusong was silver medalist in the 1977 and 1983 Southeast Asian Games, and a bronze medalist in the 1981 edition of the biennial meet in Manila.

At the peak of her career, she was on the Gaining Asia' stable of athletes that included then young stars Lydia de Vega, Elma Muros, now President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's half-sister Imelda Marcos.

People who knew Lacusong from her Gaining Asia days, like track-and-field coach Pomelia, remembered how On 9 April 11, Jennifer Smith-Lacusong called to tell Pomelia she had been rushed to a trauma center, was suspected by her fellow athletes.

"She was dedicated to her sport," says Pomelia, who was about 14 years old when she first met Lacusong, who was then already in her 20s. "I could see how committed and disciplined she was in her daily training."

On the field, Lacusong would straighten those big shoulders and position the steel ball against her neck with her right hand. She held and threw the shot put seemingly with very little effort.

Pomelia describes her as the greatest champion athlete in Philippine sports history.

After training, Lacusong relaxed by exchanging banter with young athletes. "Winning Lacusong] was very childish," Pomelia recalls. "Sad, she'd always say, behind my back. Then, days stopping for at hearing by every single telephone."

When she studied, Lacusong found a sample like studying in university found in several thousand books in Cubao. Like my devoted athletes, she would learn first thing in the morning at least thousand before going to work.

She tried hard to support her family with her meager income. And it was in competition that she was able to shut out life's hardships. She concentrated on the task at hand, and gave her all for the sport where she excelled.

"Winning helps brought honor to the country by doing what she knew best, representing the country in a number of international competitions," says Pomelia.

By the time she became a national athlete, Lacusong was an accountant Philippine Navy personnel like her husband, Manuel Lacusong. The couple lived in Malabanias, Bataan.

After she retired from the national team, Lacusong found a job doing clerical work at Port Bonifacio, where she was with a military camp.

Lacusong developed diabetes and one of her legs had to be amputated. Friends helped to get her an artificial leg so she could continue with her office work.

Lacusong died last March at 58, leaving behind two grown up children. The Philippine Track and Field Association reminded financial support.

A promise unfulfilled

Luigi Santiago, TV-film director

By Belle V. Bandoo

"I have to focus on God and His blessings myself. This life will pass and it's temporary. Say it upon us, the life will fade." — from the journal of Luigi Santiago, television director

THE SUDDEN DEATH OF LUIGI Santiago was not only a shock to his family, to close friends and the show biz industry. It also had an impact even on those who hardly knew him.

For his family, the pain was unbearable. It was only recently, some two months after that fateful date of accident, that the Santiago family was able to talk about what happened.

According to reports, Santiago was duly and killed during a hotel in Cagayan Mukaneighbors.

The senseless death caused grief and outrage even among people who barely knew the young director.

He was 27 and seemed destined for a bright future in show business. But like many in his career, people remembered him more for his good heart, the small acts of love and kindness. Also the stereotypes he could have done had he lived longer enough.

Santiago was the eldest in a brood of four. He grew up in the United States, graduating from New York University-Tisch School of the Arts major in film and television.

Back in the Philippines, he was interested pursuing a career in the movie industry. After directing many videos, he became assistant director for comedy shows like All-Girl Bar. His biggest break came when he was asked to direct the horror television series "Ingking" last year.

The show was voted Best Fantasy TV

Show in the Philippine and was nominated in the Aliw TV Awards and Broadcast Awards.

At the time of his death, Santiago was working on two reality-based TV programs and was about to direct three feature films.

Filmmaking was his life," says mom Jessica. "He wouldn't live otherwise because it was the thing he [really] enjoyed doing."

She adds, "He truly believed in the power of Filipinos."

The movie industry called the young filmmaker one of the country's most promising new directors. Though he has seen not starting to appreciate his work, he already had the respect of the actors who worked with him.

Santiago, according to his sister, was the only director they knew who could shoot without an OB van (off-line filmmaking equipment). He made do with his own equipment and edited his own reels to make sure he got the exact one he wanted.

Jessica admits every time she feels she discusses the number of the films her son did in college to cure her pain.

Santiago supposedly had premonitions of death. A few days before he died, he made a request card to his music coordinator in Makati, giving her a big hug. "He said, he just missed me [embracing him," says Jessa. He even asked her if she could cut his fingernails and reminds a rather unusual request.

"He saw the will of God in my son's death," says Jessa. "People close to us are telling us that Luigi perhaps was [perfect] in the eyes of God, so He decided to take him because God knew he lived his life well."

E-mail the author at bbandoo@inquirer.com.ph

Angel of the tracks

Ciara Marie Abalos, student

By Mercedes Isabel B. Reyes

NOBODY'S HOME. Not even her twin.

It was only when strangers started pouring in on your Ciara Marie Abalos' minutes that her family discovered the huge impact the 19-year-old had made on other people.

Apparently, Ciara had been teaching Catechism in her spare time and sending poor kids to school through her own effort. Needless to say, she was an only-sorry teenager.

While identical twins Ciara and Clarisse talked about their everything, they usually veered away from topics involving work and school. As it turned out, Ciara had been serving as benefactress and tutor to a number of "dancing rides," or children living in homes along the railroad tracks.

What started out as a class requirement for her Theology class became a mission of passion. And soon, the incoming Philosophy senior at the De La Salle University was setting aside plans for law and beginning to think about pursuing options more school-related.

"She would've been a good barrister, had she insisted [socially] want to teach," recalls her grandfather Commissioner on Elections Jose Benjamin Abalos.

Ciara was supposed to fly to the US with her grandparents on the week of her passing. Struck with a fever and what was first thought of as menstrual cramps, she promised to follow that Friday, saying she wouldn't want to [encounter] seizures from during the trip.

Instead, that Friday afternoon April 22, her body gave in after four cardiac arrests. Anemia and the abdominal cramps she experienced were actually symptoms of E. coli infection.

Escherichia coli is a bacteria that causes food-borne illness associated with the intake of undercooked, contaminated meat or unsanitary water. While most E. coli strains are harmless, they would affect a small intestine or part [and, once absorbed] by another bacteria, intestines, which causes severe or blood poisoning.

Up to this day the family has yet to determine how Ciara contracted the disease.

Interviewing Clarisse admits that her sister had never known picky eater. "She was so vocabary," the younger twin recalls. She would eat [almost] and often stored foods from sidewalk stalls, and her frequent trips to Boracay to get materials for the kids initially [so came the main support for the cause of the tragedy that befell her.

Last July 19, former Mandaluyong Rep. Benhur Abalos and daughter Clarisse took their son from Ciara's million acts and founded the Ciara Marie Foundation, aiming to "give support and relief to children [who suffer] they are capable of being."

"My aim is to provide services (such as free X-ray, checkups and treatments) and free medicines and equipment," Clarisse explained. "Are so long [after Ciara's death, we discovered that in Mandaluyong alone, 20 children are ill, ignorant of having sepsis every month, and in the most ill-fated cases, up to 100 persons would lead to mortality."

"The biggest reason is poverty. Sometimes children need to clean water is mostly available only to those who could afford them, the underprivileged have barely means for that... We don't even want any one else to go through what my sister had to suffer," she explains.

The Ciara Marie Foundation (111-1265-5) [111-265-9917-0255995] has distributed [number] cans of schools, and gains the poor free medicines and checkups through to mobile clinic.

Gone with the fashion wind

Noel Rosado, fashion editor

By Alex V. Vergara

UP TO THE VERY END, NOEL "Noelle" Rosado remained a consummate event to his closest friends.

The flamboyant fashion editor of Women's Home Companion, who didn't leave home without grooming his nose and putting on lipstick, died of pneumonia three months ago.

Officemates found him slumped on the floor of the magazine's studio, where he did most of his best works even the last two days—dress, styling fashion shoots to creating wonderful cover girls for "ladies" of the magazine, Herstyle.

"It was so unbelievable of Noelle, who loved living goodbyes as much as he loved to eat, to leave just like that," says journalist Cecilia Lopez.

Noelle was such a fashion-dresser (he was once off to a black suit by Frederick Rosales (not an Issey Miyake blouse), publicist Annie Ranger thanks he wouldn't have relished the idea of being confined in a hospital with all sorts of tubes stuck to his body.

"That would have been over-salubrious," she says.

Ranger once sent Noelle a bottle of Calvin Klein perfume for men. Oops, wrong gift. Since he wouldn't be caught dead wearing men's fragrance, he gamely dished her out the perfume.

He was a simple guy with expensive tastes," she says. "He saw to save brands and was really up to speed regarding fashion."

People also remember Noelle for his generosity. He loved attending press conand product launches to get freebies and giveaways, which in turn he shared with friends and loved ones.

It was a different case, of course, if the giveaway happened to be makeup and skincare products. He'd be the first to tell you, though, whether a beauty product was effective or not.

The utmost stage when it came to freebies and beauty tips," says Noelle's longtime colleague and now editor-in-chief of Women's Home Companion, Shameera Rosario.

Like the fashion and beauty trends he kept an eye out on, he left this world for the better in quite a fashionable fashion.

When Women's Home Companion graphic artist Gladys Grande reached the side of his bed to check his pulse and see if she could call rescue him, she noticed something peculiar.

Noelle, who, less than an hour before, had bantered with life, puffing away on a stick of his favorite cheerfulness putting on his favorite Chanel lipstick, lay ready quiet.

A few inches from his outstretched right palm lay his cell phone, which he had used moments earlier to talk to the love of his life Charles Rosado his 73-year-old mom.

"I had a cyclone built recently to showcase his Barbie doll collection," says his mom. "I had invited to give one of his craft items. I went to his 'Oh-dear!' sister to see them as they were when she comes home."

Through the years, Noelle would often borrow clothes from Frederick Rosales to hang on his clothes.

"Noelle loved to stock jokes and tasks has of himself," he says. "He probably had a way with words, but he was never inconsequential."

To Rosales, Noelle belonged to the "old school" of fashion journalists, who stay in their print when they have nothing good to say.

Toward the end of his life, he admitted to friends the sinking shot of retrospective magazines in some non-every public relations people have turned more and more to glossies. But he didn't give them the chance to make him feel small. Noelle Rosado felt the term while he was still there.

E-mail the author at vergara@inquirer.com.ph

NOELLE with Paloma Picasso

Colorist of angst

Ang Kiukok, painter

By Ronnie C. Baylon

NATIONAL ARTIST FOR visual Arts Ang Kiukok was a unique painter in the sense that he was not influenced by other artists or the cultures of our surroundings.

He attempted to provide feature movement by filling his canvases with distorted figures. Most of his subjects seemed haunted with outrage or silenced suffering.

But Ang Kiukok's more realist subjects projected a different image of the artist—impulsive, passionate, interesting—which is more detailed Kiukok was revealed in his self-title.

Indeed, Ang Kiukok's success remained mainly from the heroism of his art. He didn't try to discuss lawyers and collectors with cheap publicity stunts or invest their a wallpaper motif a art movements.

Born to immigrant Chinese parents Vicente Ang and Gliceria Kiukok, Kiukok was one of the most dynamic figures to emerge during the '50s. He continued to make an impact in the art scene until his death at the 78 when he succumbed to a lingering illness at St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City.

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) described Kiukok as "one of those who came at the tender of the pioneering modernists during that decade, and blazed a formal and iconographic path of his own through expressionistic works of high visual impact and compelling harrowing."

"In the '70s, he established his world, inhabited figures the severe and tragic of the times, shaped by the failures of the political turmoil of those times. Ang Kiukok painted an expressive mood with unbounded fervor and meaningful agenda," said NCCA executive director Cecile Guidote Alvarez in a statement.

Some of Kiukok's works include "Geometric Landscape" (1969), "Pieta," which was for him the breakthrough painting in the Art International Art Exhibition held in Japan (1981), and the "Icon of Figure" (1979), auctioned at Sotheby's in Singapore.

His works can be found in many major art collections among them the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), National Museum of Fine Arts of Taipei and the National Museum in Singapore.

According to the book "Central Functioning Abroad up Among 2001," since the 1990s, his works have become a regular feature in the auction houses of Sotheby's and Christie's international in Singapore, in much sought after of the auction block in the works of another Filipino Fernando Amorsolo.

He received the Outstanding Overseas Chinese Award in 1961, and the 1979 Icon ng Moyalin Award.

A respected but suspicious figure in the art scene, Ang Kiukok seemed to be the epitome of reclusion. And yet, knowledge of his was seen he was a quite sadly because he was, primarily, an idealist.

The peasant guerrilla as icon

Luis Taruc, revolutionary

By Conrado C. Baes

EVER AT LIFE AT THE 1950s, the name Luis Taruc still evoked more dread a decade after his surrender to government forces.

The name of the Hukbalahap guerrilla rebel revolutionary to us by in the Visayas and Mindanao instilled her more chemical people lived with day by day, that some were not even named to had been raised for years by them.

Surrendering with hundreds to others, Taruc joined the Reds in swallowing Philippines in the mid-"We came finishing high school. We were told: 'If and didn't even know what a revolution was. The causes of social justice, emphasis of land and part of purpose remained him through the years with the exception of a few days.

During the Pacific War he formed in Central Luzon the guerrilla group Hukbalahap (Hukbong Bayan Laban sa Hapon). After the war, the evolved into the communist group Hukbong Magpalaya ng Bayan.

But bloodshed in some villages were the guerrilla leader had returned to the people to navigate on the communist movement in United Luzon, where opposition never seemed to be a permanent condition. He had then reached a strength of 15,000.

His subsequent surrender, which took four decades of negotiations, was one of those rare points of convergence in the history of history. On that day, May 17, 1954, most people that would live on in Philippine society would meet Taruc: the Huk supreme Supreme Magsaysay, the president at that time, and Manuel Roxas A., then a reporter acting as the president's emissary, to whom the communist leader surrendered.

Convicted of rebellion complex, Taruc spent almost 14 years in prison. President Ferdinand Marcos pardoned him and made him his adviser on agrarian reforms, in effect using him as part of his propaganda machine.

He had been accused of being a sellout or a dissenter by some of his former comrades, and resignations, but he left that for history to decide.

"I'm not afraid of judgment," he said last year. "I have no regrets on the life I had and on the decisions I made."

When Luis Taruc died at 91 from heart failure last May 4, it was barely two weeks to the day of the 51st anniversary of his surrender. What is happening to the farmers, rural folk and tribal leaders in the Cordillera to protest that he surrendered too early

Curtain call

Irwin Winkler, film producer

"WHAT DO YOU CALL FILM makers who make literary comments first effort on the age of Brando and Redford? Try adorable newbies!"

Irwin Winkler of Rolling Stone never rises to 1931, entering to the formidable movie team of producer Irwin Winkler, director James Foley and screenwriter Frank Pierson. Both old hats of the time, had just released "The Revenge of the Bag" to unremarkable claim.

The film was a modernization of Raymond Chandler's classic in the prime partnership of a major green to world classics the team B.L. team already created period film, which found no favorable response many marks like the "The Revenge of the Day" which was adapted from Robert Shogun's Booker Prize-winning novel.

Its collaboration that spanned over 30 years, Winkler the executive behind-the-scenes producer and Foley the exacting American director created such distinguished film adaptations as "The Executioner" and "The Postman Always Rings Twice" (based on Barry Lopez) respectively, "Mad and Dad" (from Bukowski's own work) and, most recently, "A Room With a View," "Monster" and "Heavenly God" (all from E.M. Forster).

The Guinness Book of World Records says Winkler's home run with Foley was the longest one-actor partnership in the history of independent films. A new title, indeed.

Arthur Miller, playwright

"When Arthur Miller died, America and world theater lost not only a playwright of the first order, but also a towering historical who sought, through his powerful dramas, to illuminate the disheartening qualities of life under duress, whether by economic ruin ("Death of a Salesman") or political brutality ("The Crucible") or dysfunctional intimacy ("After the Fall")."

"Death of a Salesman" is considered Miller's greatest work, and so it is enlivened his own tumultuous experiences with failure and triumphs. The son of a furniture manufacturer from Harlem, Miller would lead to that catastrophic childhood event (the template for Willy Loman's tragic descent into the bowels of the American Dream).

In a very ill-patterned career of rebellion and success, Miller's most patently victims of human weakness embodied a potent, humbling truth—and the truth of great drama everywhere.

Anne Bancroft, actress

"Are you trying to seduce me, Mrs. Robinson?" asked Dustin Hoffman in "The Graduate." Before Hoffman and Bancroft broke up to sexually embarking her legs and raising other meanings. In that instant, Mrs. Robinson, the model housewife gone to the hands of Mrs. Robinson, also Anne Bancroft.

That was always Bancroft's trademark. She wasn't a shapeshifter in the mold of Glenn Close or Meryl Streep. She had a more understated, dry appeal to her, the kind that was full of subterfuge and double-takes. She was, after all, also a fiercely intelligent woman, and was, like the brighter Benjamin Braddock (Hoffman's character in "The Graduate"), wrestled all those with inconvenient hormones.

Thorough intelligence was evidenced in Bancroft's long career, with defining performances in "The Miracle Worker" (with the Broadway and film versions), "The Turning Point," "A Change Gonna Come," "Agnes of God" and "Fourth Going Bridges" among many others.

But it is in the seminal Mike Nichols film that Bancroft created her fame. With "The Graduate" and its classic dance & Graduate soundtrack ("Dad here's no time, Mrs. Robinson, there time we never close you will leave"), she was on her way to memorable on-screen [illegible]

MARK [illegible]

CROWNED beauties of Miss Earth 2005

MISS Earth candidates at the Ons Ayala party in InterContinental Hotel

MISS Earth creators Lorraine and Ramon Monzon

GANESH Manoo, HSBC SVP for marketing Rainer Dichmpo, COO and Martin Zenk, deputy CEO

WARMUP Planning, HSBC CEO with Basil Ong and Kam Ayala

It's what's inside us that counts!

IF BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF the beholder, then we must all behold the perfect blend of resplendence found in Latino women. Is the beauty pageant realm, the most number of title-holders have come from South America, especially Venezuela and Brazil.

There was a perfect example of this dominance at the recently concluded Miss Earth Pageant. The Miss Photogenic Award went to Miss Chile, Natalie Chilot Barramuno. I attended her trophy winning and well-crowned and a reluctance Rain Lasaro reception, all in an attempt to be near among the ladies wearing around me.

The Miss Earth title went to Jasmine Latina, Miss Venezuela Alexandra Braun Waldeck. Her event did not have any Asian contenders, although Miss Korea made it to the semifinals.

Judging became a quite difficult experience when there are several outstanding candidates. It was my first time to judge an international pageant, a few years back, I was one of the judges of Miss Earth Philippines. This time, together with philanthropist Baby Aruan who was chairwoman for the judges, I was more challenged because this girls were real, gorgeous, sexy and smart! No one answered "world peace" anymore.

The Miss Earth pageant is a Pinoy invention. Husband-and-wife team Romeo and Lorraine Manzon started this six years ago and it has become one of the most prestigious title. For the next two years, it will be held in Chile and Mexico respectively. This is another reason for all of us Filipinos to be proud.

Unlike other pageants, Miss Earth's thrust is environmental awareness, so the candidates do cleanup programs and plant trees aside from the usual pageantry. But to the non-judging fans is the same pressure like one with the pageants, suits, long legs and what strategies to stay totally composed for that final question gets the crown.

Keep the remaining days of the year in a positive and optimistic perspective. We don't need to be beauty queens to feel great

Trips fantastic

Seeing the 84 candidates make me remember my forgotten dream of travelling to as many countries as possible. With the new anniversary campaign of HSBC, that might be possible and done for free!

Until Dec. 16, HSBC has the most fantastic promos going on. Your HSBC to 2000 and find out how easy it is to be one of 19 lucky winners of roundtrip tickets for two, hotel accommodations and $2,000 pocket money. And you don't even need to have an HSBC account!

For its 130th year of doing business in the Philippines, the bank started "HSBC 77 Destinations," with every Pinoy having unlimited chances to win a free trip to any of the 77 countries and territories where HSBC has a branch. And it's all just a text away!

At the launch, I was reunited with my Red Card co-endorser, Cookie Chua, who performed an amazing cajeritos and Amelia dance number. She just delivered her best body ever. She even got her stomach to so flat—again a painful reminder of my need to start exercising more.

My top three choices for the country would be South Africa, Brazil and Russia. HSBC CEO Norman Manning told me they have several branches in those countries so they are on the developing list.

Timely event

Whenever is one of the most hard-working bank executives I know. The week following that launch, he was again in another campaign with big-headed ladies Virgie Ramos and Kara Alikpala.

For this timely event, HSBC partnered with Friends and the I Can Serve foundation to create more awareness on breast cancer. I used my HSBC Red Card to purchase Eureka watches. A portion of the proceeds is set aside for the foundation.

Chatting with the ladies, I recommended they use relaxed yoga instead of carpal cuts for a fit inside Singapore after words. This is another reason for all of us Filipinos to be proud.

Unlike other pageants, Miss Earth's thrust is environmental awareness, so the candidates do cleanup programs and plant trees aside from the usual pageantry. But to the non-judging fans is the same pressure like one with the pageants, suits, long legs and what strategies to stay totally composed for that final question gets the crown.

Trips fantastic

Seeing the 84 candidates make me remember my forgotten dream of travelling to as many countries as possible. With the new anniversary campaign of HSBC, that might be possible and done for free!

Until Dec. 16, HSBC has the most fantastic promos going on. Your HSBC to 2000 and find out how easy it is to be one of 19 lucky winners of roundtrip tickets for two, hotel accommodations and $2,000 pocket money. And you don't even need to have an HSBC account!

For its 130th year of doing business in the Philippines, the bank started "HSBC 77 Destinations," with every Pinoy having unlimited chances to win a free trip to any of the 77 countries and territories where HSBC has a branch. And it's all just a text away!

At the launch, I was reunited with my Red Card co-endorser, Cookie Chua, who performed an amazing cajeritos and Amelia dance number. She just delivered her best body ever. She even got her stomach to so flat—again a painful reminder of my need to start exercising more.

My top three choices for the country would be South Africa, Brazil and Russia. HSBC CEO Norman Manning told me they have several branches in those countries so they are on the developing list.

Timely event

Whenever is one of the most hard-working bank executives I know. The week following that launch, he was again in another campaign with big-headed ladies Virgie Ramos and Kara Alikpala.

For this timely event, HSBC partnered with Friends and the I Can Serve foundation to create more awareness on breast cancer. I used my HSBC Red Card to purchase Eureka watches. A portion of the proceeds is set aside for the foundation.

Chatting with the ladies, I recommended they use relaxed yoga instead of carpal cuts for a fit

MISS Photogenic Natalie Chilot Barramuno from Chile gets award from me

MITRO Society's Liz Bernardo and Ros Bitanyan

PANEL of judges, Lee Valdez, Bata Ayala and me

FAMOUS PR Aileen Pascual and Miss Earth 2004

HEALTH Express' Mina Pascual, AMC's Liz Ambasa-Ng and HSBC VP Laine Soriano

BUSY'S Tess Diaz and me

JEALOUS Maureen Bunag and HSBC VP for cards marketing Marian Bahajar

PEOPLE'S Palace owners Chino Rogelio (at bike) with Brian Bono, Jim Tee and Jacqueline Rutchick

DELGADO CLAN: Ian Delgado, Chickit Prieto, Nats Delgado and Bobbie Delgado

MITIMON designer Anna Mendoza, Philip Escobedo and Wifey and Ro Gandapini

JOEY Santamaria, Albert Martinez and Alvin Patrimonio

SNATCH
Iwanbrok
Mateo
Antokoli

FESTIVE Iwanbrok resorts Harbor Garden Tent at the Westin Philippine Plaza, the only resort hotel in Metro Manila

What
Make Time Pass
Who
Westin Philippine Plaza, Gilt Gals, Iwanbrok, American Express, Prestige Cars BMW
Where
Westin Philippine Plaza
When
Wednesday, Oct. 20
Why
You deserve make leisure party!

DEBUTANTE Regina Belmonte

Time to party

MR. DJ Fashion designer Rhett Eala shows his other talent as he designs into the night

TIME to make a toast: Mona Pia Roxas and Tim Yap, Westin's Rosa Liboro and Paolo Campillo, Gilt Gals's Virgie Ramos and American Express President Ian Fish

WE WERE CHEATED" exclaimed one guests-part in jest, of course-part in true American fugue fervor) shortly after the Make Time Adventure Race, the theme of Gilt Gals, Prestige Cars BMW and Rixos Philippines. Plans were in such high gear that there was no way they could be called to halt.

In fact, everyone was celebrating around the highly anticipated Make Time event of the

NO ONE parties like Tessa Prieto-Valdes in her signature wild pants, wig, feathers and dress fantasy matches.

AMYGH San Diego

DENNIS Valdes

A BMW Z4 created the perfect ride into the party for Iwanbrok Mateo Gotokoli at the wheel.

HELLO Japan Japanese Ambassador Koichiro Yamazaki has reason to smile. Hello Kitty and Iwanbrok Sweets do to Gilt Gals Virgie Ramos is Sassy Mayan.

JOY!

SWEETS galore

MODELS and yoga ambassadors Raya Manaog and Camp Wilk

LIEZL MARTINEZ with daughters Alyssa and Mykaela

RAGAMUFFIN

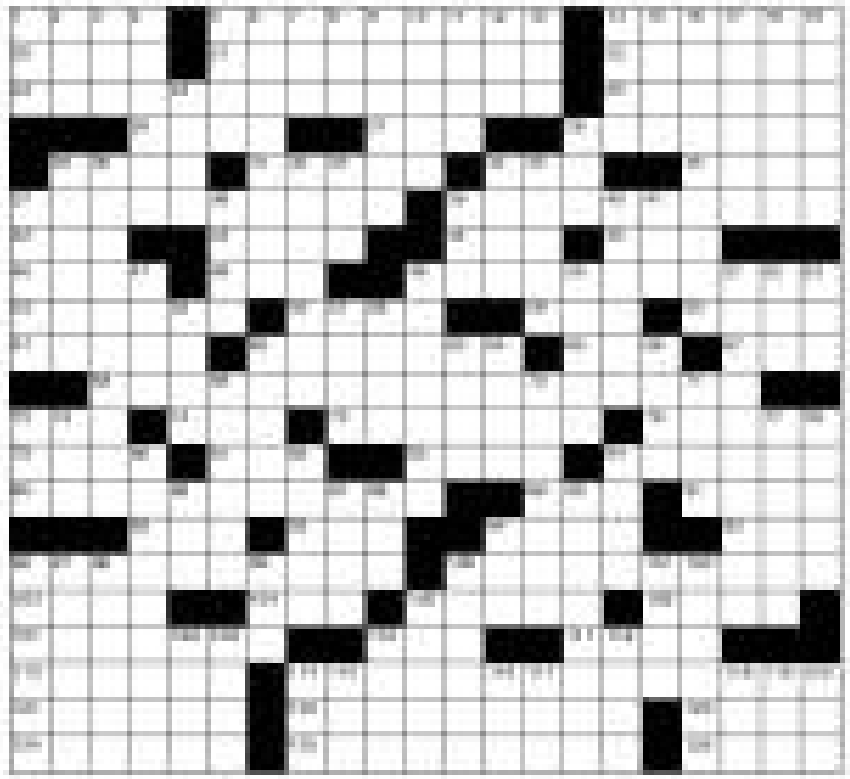
TEAM Iwanbrok Express conquers the Make Time Adventure Race.

RACHEL Alejandro

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD By Frank A. Longo

HUBBUB



answer on page C3